Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
October 17, 2024	Recognition Item 5

Title

CCSD Police Department - State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification and Silver Award

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of CCSD Police Department -- State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification and Silver Award Winners

Summary Explanation and Background

The Cherokee County School District Police Department has earned state recognition for its excellence!

The department's status as a Certified Agency has been renewed by the Joint Review Committee of the State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification Program, and the department has earned the prestigious Silver Award for maintaining accreditation for 15 years.

Certified Agency status is the highest level of state accreditation that local law enforcement agencies can achieve. It is rare for school police departments to complete the rigorous review required to earn certification. CCSD's department, which is led by Chief Buster Cushing, is one of only five school police departments in the state to achieve this certification.

The Certification Program provides a comprehensive blueprint for effective and professional law enforcement, and recertification is required every three years to maintain this accreditation. CCSD's police officers are Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council certified and have been deputized by the Cherokee County Sheriff.

As part of the recertification process, trained state assessors conduct a comprehensive onsite assessment. The Joint Review Committee then reviews the assessment report and determines whether to approve recertification. Chief Cushing noted that Mary Henson, the department's certification manager, and Capt. Richie Rich, its certification supervisor, played lead roles in ensuring the success of the reaccreditation process.

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

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