



Frequently Asked Questions:

School Resource Officers (SROs) in Our Secondary Schools

At Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), the safety and well-being of our students and staff are paramount. Our secondary schools partner with School Resource Officers (SROs) to enhance safety within our secondary school communities. This FAQ aims to clarify the role of SROs and how they contribute to a secure learning environment.



What is a School Resource Officer (SRO)?

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is a sworn law enforcement officer employed by the Alexandria Police Department who is assigned to work within our secondary schools. They are specially trained and certified to work in an educational environment and serve as a visible, positive presence in the school community.

What is the primary goal of an SRO?

The primary goal of an SRO is to support the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors within the school environment. This includes deterring criminal activity, responding to emergencies, and fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the school community.

What is the difference between an SRO and school administration?

This is a crucial distinction.

- **SROs are law enforcement officers.** Their role is to address criminal matters, enforce laws, and respond to emergencies that pose a threat to safety within the school.
- School administrators (principals, assistant principals, deans) are responsible for student discipline. They manage violations of school rules, codes of conduct, and behavioral issues. **SROs DO NOT** facilitate student discipline. Their involvement in student behavior is limited to situations where a crime has occurred or there is an immediate threat to safety.

What types of incidents do SROs handle?

SROs primarily handle situations that involve:

1. Criminal activity occurring on school grounds.
2. Threats of violence or harm to students or staff.
3. Emergency situations (e.g., significant physical altercations, medical emergencies, fire alarms, active threats).
4. Investigating alleged crimes.
5. Providing police presence at large school events.

What types of incidents do SROs **NOT** handle?

SROs are not involved in routine student disciplinary matters, such as:

1. Dress code violations.
2. Tardiness or truancy (unless it involves a criminal offense).
3. Minor behavioral infractions (e.g., talking in class, not following classroom rules).
4. Disputes between students that do not involve criminal behavior or significant safety threats.

These matters remain the sole responsibility of school administration.

How do SROs interact with students?

Beyond their law enforcement duties, SROs serve as valuable resources and mentors. They engage with students through:

- 1. Informal conversations.
- 2. Classroom presentations on topics like safety, cyberbullying, or drug awareness.
- 3. Participation in school events.
- 4. Building positive relationships based on trust and respect.

How can parents contact an SRO?

If you have a safety concern that you believe requires law enforcement involvement within the school, you can contact the school administration, who can then connect you with the SRO if appropriate. For general law enforcement matters outside of school, please contact the Alexandria Police Department.

Who should I contact for student discipline concerns?

For all questions or concerns related to student discipline, school rules, or your child's behavior at school, please always contact the school administration (e.g., your child's principal or assistant principal) directly. They are the primary point of contact for these matters.

We believe that a clear understanding of the SRO's role helps maintain a safe and orderly school environment while ensuring that student discipline is handled appropriately by school leadership. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your school's administration.

SRO Contact Information

Officer Name	Assigned School	Contact Information
Officer Eunice Addia	Alexandria City High School- King Street Campus	eunice.addai@alexandriava.gov 703-746-6793
Officer Al Davis	Alexandria City High School- King Street Campus	al.davis@alexandriava.gov 703-746-6156
Officer Byron Rush	Alexandria City High School- Minnie Howard Campus	byron.rush@alexandriava.gov 703-746-6224
Officer Michael Garcia	Alexandria City High School- Minnie Howard Campus	michael.garcia@alexandriava.gov 703-746-6843
Officer Andrew Harrell	George Washington Middle School	andrew.harrell@alexandriava.gov 703-746-6716
Officer Pierre Hill	Francis C. Hammond Middle School	pierre.hill@alexandriava.gov 703-746-6786