Sec. 1. BOARD AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE SECURITY OFFICERS

The Board of The Academy of Accelerated Learning, Inc. (AAL) may

1. Employ or contract with security personnel;
2. Enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local law enforcement agency or a county or municipality that is the employing political subdivision of commissioned peace officers for the provision of school resource officers;
3. For the purposes of providing security personnel, contract with a security services contractor licensed under Chapter 1702, Texas Occupations Code, for the provision of a commissioned security officer, as defined by Texas Occupations Code § 1702.002, who has completed the Level II or III training course required by the Department of Public Safety; and
4. Commission peace officers to carry out Subchapter C, Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.

Tex. Educ. Code § 12.104(a-1), 37.081(a).

Sec. 2. ARMED SECURITY REQUIRED

The Board of AAL shall determine the appropriate number of armed security officers for each charter school campus. The Board must ensure that at least one-armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each charter school campus. *Tex. Educ. Code §§ 12.104(b)(3)(V), 37.0814(a).*

A security officer described above must be:

1. A school district peace officer;
2. A school resource officer;
3. A commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel under Texas Education Code § 37.081;
4. A reserve deputy sheriff appointed under Texas Local Government Code § 85.004 who is a peace officer as described by Article 2A.001, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure;
5. A reserve police officer appointed under Texas Education Code § 37.0816 who is a peace officer as described by Article 2A.001, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure; or
6. An honorably retired peace officer, as defined by Texas Government Code § 614.121 who has: (a) kept their commission as a peace officer in active status; and (b) fulfilled all applicable requirements under Texas Occupations Code §§ 1701.351, 1701.3525, and 1701.357. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.0814(b).*

Sec. 3. GOOD CAUSE EXCEPTION

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(a) ***Good Cause Except for Inability to Comply***

If the Board of AAL is unable to comply with Section 2, above, the Board may claim a good cause exception from the requirement to comply if the noncompliance is due to the availability of:

1. Funding; or
2. Personnel who qualify to serve as a security officer described by Section 2.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.0814(c).

(b) ***Alternative Standard***

If the Board of AAL claims a good cause exception, the Board must develop an alternative standard with which the school is able to comply, which may include providing a person to act as a security officer who is:

1. A school marshal; or
2. A school employee or a person with whom the school contracts who:
   i. Either
      a) Has completed school safety training provided by a qualified handgun instructor certified in school safety under Texas Government Code § 411.1901; or
      b) Not later than the 90th day after the date on which the employee or person begins duties as a security officer, completes training deemed appropriate by the school, in consultation with the school's police department, or, if the school does not have a police department, a local law enforcement agency, in:
         (1) Active shooter response, which must be provided by an instructor certified by the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center at Texas State University--San Marcos;
         (2) School safety and emergency management;
         (3) Crisis intervention;
         (4) Incident command;
         (5) First aid administration;
         (6) Mental health; and
         (7) Qualifications relating to the carrying or use of a firearm; and
   ii. Carries a handgun on school premises in accordance with written regulations or written authorization of the Board under Texas Penal Code § 46.03(a)(1)(A).

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.0814(d).

(c) ***Expiration and Renewal***

A good cause exception claimed by the Board of AAL expires on the first anniversary of the date the exception is claimed. On the expiration of the exception, the Board must reevaluate whether

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the Board is able to comply with Section 2 of this policy and, if not, renew:

1. The claim for an exception; and
2. The alternative standard developed.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.0814(d-1).

(d) ***Documentation***

The Board of AAL must develop and maintain documentation of the school's implementation of and compliance with the armed security officer requirement, including documentation related to a good cause exception, and shall, if requested by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), provide that documentation to the TEA in the manner prescribed by the Agency.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.0814(e).

Sec. 4. JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of a peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel shall be determined by the Board of Directors and may include all territory in the geographic boundaries of AAL and all property outside the boundaries of AAL that is owned, leased, or rented by or otherwise under the control of the School and the Board that employ or contract with, as applicable, the peace officer or security personnel or that enter into a memorandum of understanding for the provision of a school resource officer. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.081(a-1)*

Sec. 5. DUTIES

The Board shall determine the law enforcement duties of peace officers, school resource officers, and security personnel. The duties must be included in:

1. The district improvement plan under Texas Education Code § 11.252, if any;
2. The student code of conduct adopted under Texas Education Code § 37.001;
3. Any memorandum of understanding providing for a school resource officer; and
4. Any other campus or district document describing the role of peace officers, school resource officers, or security personnel in the district.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.081(d).

The Board shall coordinate with district campus behavior coordinators and other school employees to ensure that Security Officers are tasked only with duties related to law enforcement intervention and not tasked with behavioral or administrative duties better addressed by other School employees. *Tex. Educ. Code § 37.081(d-4).* The campus principal retains final authority to assign disciplinary consequences to students and staff.

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a) *Law Enforcement Duties*

A peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel shall perform law enforcement duties for AAL that must include protecting:

1. The safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the peace officer, resource officer, or security personnel; and
2. The property of AAL.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.081(d-1).

A person permitted to carry a firearm on an AAL campus may not perform the routine law enforcement duties of a peace officer, including making arrests, unless the duty is performed in response to an emergency that poses a threat of death or serious bodily injury to a student, school employee, or other individual at the school campus. This limitation does not apply to a commissioned peace officer who is assigned law enforcement duties that are included in campus and district documents describing the role of peace officers in the district as required by Texas Education Code § 37.081(d).

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.089.

b) *Student Discipline and School Administration*

AAL may not assign or require as duties of a charter school peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel:

1. Routine student discipline or school administrative tasks; or
2. Contact with students unrelated to the law enforcement duties of the peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.081(d-2).

This limitation does not prohibit a charter school peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel from informal contact with a student unrelated to:

1. The assigned security or law enforcement duties of the peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel; or
2. An incident involving student behavior or law enforcement.

Tex. Educ. Code § 37.081(d-3).

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Sec. 6. BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO POSSESS FIREARMS

The Board shall authorize eligible Security Officers to possess certain firearms in schools, at Board meetings, and at school-sponsored or school-related events on School Premises, to the extent allowed by law. Each specifically authorized Security Officer shall be approved by action of the Board. The Superintendent shall issue written authorization to each approved Security Officer.

Security Officers are authorized to possess a handgun on school premises in a manner consistent with their professional license and certifications as issued by DPS, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement ("TCOLE"), or other licensing agency or authority. The Board or Superintendent may establish additional criteria or limitations through the specific written authorization issued to Security Officers or through written regulations applicable to all Security Officers. At a minimum, each Security Officer authorized to carry a firearm under this policy shall be required to maintain a current license to carry a handgun in accordance with state law.

Sec. 7. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Security Officers are responsible for providing their own uniform that complies with state regulations. Security Officers are responsible for providing their own firearm, if applicable, and any other equipment required for performing their duties. Body worn cameras are not permitted.

Sec. 8. REVOCATION OF AUTHORIZATION

Written authorization issued to a Security Officer under this policy may be revoked at any time at the discretion of the Superintendent or the Board upon written notice.

Sec 9. CONFIDENTIALITY

AAL has determined that each Security Officer assigned to the School has a legitimate educational interest in education records as that term is defined under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), 20 USC § 1232g, for the sole and limited purpose of the assigned security and law enforcement duties of the Security Officer and/or collecting certain incident-based data related to security services, and that the Security Officer(s) are the agent(s) of AAL solely for these limited purposes.

Security Officers shall maintain the confidentiality of education records as required by FERPA. Security Officers shall not discuss, disclose, or reveal to third parties, including other students, information regarding individual student behavior or discipline.

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Sec. 10. COMPLAINTS

Any person with a complaint against the performance of Security Officers under this policy shall direct their concerns to the Director of Operations, 6711 Bellfort Ave, Houston, TX 77087 or by calling 713-668-8237 to speak with the Director of Operations.

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