

Students

School Resource Officers

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the contractual duties and training requirements of a school resource officer.

II. General Statement of Policy

The school district, upon securing the services of school resource officers, is committed to establishing the qualifications and duties required of these officers. Any contract for the services of a school resource officer with the district will meet the requirements of this policy.

III. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the definitions included in this section apply.

- A. “School” means an elementary school, middle school or secondary school, as defined by state law.
- B. “School Resource Officer” means a peace officer who is assigned to work in an elementary school, middle school, or secondary school during the regular instructional school day as one of the officer’s regular responsibilities through the terms of a contract entered between the peace officer’s employer and the school district.

IV. Contractual Duties

- A. A school resource officer’s contractual duties with the district will include:
 - 1. fostering a positive school climate through relationship building and open communication;
 - 2. protecting students, staff, and visitors on school grounds from criminal activity;
 - 3. serving as a liaison between the Emergency Management & Safety Coordinator and law enforcement to facilitate coordinated communication and responses with school officials;
 - 4. collaborating with the Emergency Management & Safety Coordinator to provide expertise and advice on the design and

implementation of safety drills tailored to the specific needs of each school environment;

5. working under supervision of the Emergency Management & Safety Coordinator to conduct comprehensive assessments to identify vulnerabilities in school facilities and safety protocols, ensuring alignment with district-wide emergency preparedness standards;
 6. educating and advising students and staff on law enforcement topics; and,
 7. enforcement of criminal laws involving bodily harm or the threat of bodily harm to another, or in which a victim of a crime, or their parent or guardian, is requesting law enforcement assistance. School resource officers should collaborate with school administrators for non-violent juvenile status offenses involving petty-misdemeanor and misdemeanor infractions occurring on school-owned property or during school-sanctioned events.
- B. A school resource officer must not use force or the authority of their office solely to enforce school rules or policies or participate in the enforcement of discipline for violations of school rules.
- C. Any law enforcement officer who has a statutory duty to identify themselves must do so in a manner that complies with state law.
- D. Nothing in this policy limits any other duty or responsibility imposed on peace officers; limits the expectation that peace officers will exercise professional judgment and discretion to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public when carrying out their duties; or creates a duty for school resource officers to protect students, staff, or others on school grounds that is different from the duty to protect the public as a whole.

V. Training

- A. Except as provided for in paragraphs V.B., V.C., and V.D. below, each school resource officer must complete specific training before assuming duties, with exceptions noted below.
- B. Officers who completed certain prior courses before Sept 1, 2025, have until June 1, 2027, to complete the new training mandated under paragraph V.A. above before June 1, 2027.
- C. If an officer's employer is unable to provide the required training course to the officer prior to the officer assuming the duties of a school resource officer, the officer must complete the required training within six months of assuming the duties of a school resource officer.

- D. Substitute officers serving less than 60 student contact days/year are exempt from training and must follow district policies.
- E. For each school resource officer employed by the district, the chief law enforcement officer must maintain a copy of the most recent training certificate issued to the officer for completion of the training mandated under this section.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, subds. 9, 11, and 13 (Definitions - Elementary School, Middle School, Secondary School)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, subd. 25 (School Resource Officers)
Minn. Stat. § 609.4751, subd. 5 (Duty to Identify)
Minn. Stat. § 626.8482 (School Resource Officers; Duties; Training; Model Policy)

Cross References:

Policy 403 (Discipline of School District Employees)
Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)
Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)
Policy 506 (Student Conduct and Discipline)

Policy
adopted: 11/04/24
revised: 09/14/26 (Quick Review)

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 273
Edina, Minnesota