



SCHOOL BOARD OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
School Board Policy Executive Summary
 Form D

Policy Number:	8407
Title of Policy:	Safe-School Officers
Cabinet Member:	Robin L. Novelli
Purpose of Revisions:	The purpose of the proposed revisions to the policy is to ensure compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, Florida State Board of Education Rules, Board policies, administrative rules, procedures, and guidelines. In addition, the proposed revisions promote transparency and accountability.
Tentative Schedule:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet – 11/15/21 • Work Session – 12/14/21 • Rule Development Workshop – 1/18/22 • School Board Meeting Information – 1/18/22 • School Board Meeting Approval – 2/8/22 • Effective Date – upon approval
Summary of Proposed Policy Revisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This policy is being revised based on NEOLA recommendations to be compliant to the new Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) 6A-1.0018 School Safety Requirements and Monitoring related to Safe-School Officer assignments and incidents. • These proposed revisions encompass suggested language from NEOLA.
Specific Authority:	F.S. 30.15; F.S. 1006.12; F.A.C. 6A-1.0018
Next Steps:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisions to internal procedures • Training for BPS employees regarding revisions to policy and revised procedures

**Current
Version**



Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 Operations
Title	SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS
Code	po8407
Status	Active
Adopted	June 25, 2019
Last Revised	September 10, 2019

8407 - **SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS**

I. Safe-School Officers Generally

- A. For the protection and safety of students, school personnel, visitors, and property, the District shall partner with local law enforcement agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school in the District. Further, the Board will collaborate with charter school governing boards located in the District to support access to all safe-school officer options available pursuant to Florida law.
- B. For purposes of this policy, safe-school officers include school resource officers and Specialists – Safety and Security.

II. School Resource Officers

- A. The Board will enter into cooperative agreements with law enforcement agencies for the provision of school resource officers. School resource officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1) and employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in F.S. 943.10(4). School resource officers shall:
1. undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation as part of their employment with their respective agency;
 2. abide by Board policies and consult with and coordinate activities through school principals when appropriate; and
 3. complete mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a national organization with expertise in mental health crisis intervention. Such training must be designed to improve school resource officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.
- B. With respect to matters relating to employment, school resource officers shall be responsible to their law enforcement agency, subject to agreements between the Board and law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by school resource officers which are part of the regular instructional program of schools shall be under the direction of school principals.
- C. The powers and duties of law enforcement officers shall continue throughout school resource officers' tenure.

III. Specialists – Safety and Security

- A. In accordance with F.S. 1006.12, the Board has adopted a hybrid model through the use of Specialists – Safety and Security. This model includes the hiring of qualified individuals that meet the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15. These individuals are trained and supervised by the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office through a cooperative agreement. In addition to adhering to Board policies and procedures, all Specialists – Safety and Security are responsible for adhering to the policies and procedures of the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office related to their assignment.
- B. It is the intent of the Board to utilize the Specialists – Safety and Security pursuant to The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program. Specialists – Safety and Security do not have the power of arrest or the authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant incident.
- C. Prior to appointing Specialists – Safety and Security, the Superintendent must provide the Board with evidence from the Brevard County Sheriff demonstrating that potential Specialists – Safety and Security have met all the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15.
- D. The identity of Specialists – Safety and Security is confidential and exempt under Florida law.

IV. Notification of Incidents Involving Safe-School Officer Discipline and Firearm Discharge

The Superintendent is responsible for notifying the Brevard County Sheriff, the Office of Safe Schools, and the Board Chair immediately after, but no later than seventy-two (72) hours after, the occurrence of the following:

- A. a safe-school officer is dismissed for misconduct or disciplined; or
- B. a safe-school officer discharges his/her firearm in the exercise of his/her duties other than for training purposes.

Revised 9/10/19

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Legal F.S. 30.15
 F.S. 1006.12

Neola Template



Book: Florida Policies for Update

Section: Special Update August 2021 - Parent/Student Rights and School Safety

Title: REVISED POLICY - SPECIAL UPDATE - PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS - SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS

Number: po8407

REVISED POLICY - SPECIAL UPDATE - PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS

8407 - SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS

For the protection and safety of students, school personnel, visitors, and property, the District shall partner with local law enforcement agencies security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school facility in the District, including charter schools. A Safe-School officer shall be present, at a minimum, during the school day when the school facility is open for instruction as defined by the approved school calendar (See, Policy 8210 - *School Calendar*).

Definitions

“Safe-School officer” means a school resource officer, a school-safety officer, a school guardian, or a school security guard, as identified in F.S. 1006.12.

“School facility” means a public K-12 school, including a charter school, with a Master School Identification Number (MSID) number as provided under F.A.C. 6A-1.0016, with the following exceptions:

Schools with separate MSID numbers that are located at the same physical location and are co-located with each other are a single school facility.

Schools that are located at separate physical locations and are not co-located, but share one MSID number are separate school facilities.

A school facility does not include:

schools without a physical location for instruction of students, such as virtual schools, virtual instruction

programs, virtual course offerings, franchises of the Florida Virtual School and virtual charter schools;

settings where instruction is provided in a county jail or state prison, in a Department of Juvenile Justice facility or program, in a hospital, or while a student is homebound;

schools that provide only prekindergarten or adult education;

technical centers under F.S. 1004.91; and

private schools, regardless of whether or not their students receive State scholarship funds under F.S. Chapter 1002.

~~Further, the School Board will collaborate with charter school governing boards located in the District to facilitate access to all safe-school officer options available pursuant to Florida law.~~

Training

Safe-School officers must complete mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a national organization with expertise in mental health crisis intervention. The training shall improve officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.

[SELECT ONE OR MORE OF THE OPTIONS BELOW]

[] School Resource Officers

The School Board will enter into cooperative agreements with law enforcement agencies for the provision of school resource officers. School resource officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1) and employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in F.S. 943.10(4). School resource officers shall:

undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation;

abide by Board policies and consult with and coordinate activities through school principals; and

complete mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a national organization with expertise in mental health crisis intervention. Such training must be designed to improve school

resource officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.

With respect to matters relating to employment, school resource officers shall be responsible to their law enforcement agency, subject to agreements between the Board and law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by school resource officers which are part of the regular instructional program of schools shall be under the direction of school principals.

The powers and duties of law enforcement officers shall continue throughout school resource officers' tenure.

[END SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS OPTION]

[] Commissioned School Safety Officers

The Superintendent shall recommend, and the School Board may appoint, one (1) or more school safety officers. School safety officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1), certified under the provisions of F.S. Chapter 943, and employed by either a law enforcement agency or the Board. School safety officers must undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation.

School safety officers have and shall exercise the power to make arrests for violations of law on Board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on such property under the same conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests. School safety officers have authority to carry weapons when performing their official duties.

The Board may enter into mutual aid agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided in F.S. Chapter 23.

A school safety officer's salary may be paid jointly by the Board and law enforcement agency.

[END OF COMMISSIONED SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS OPTION]

[] School Guardians (The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program)

The School Board utilizes school guardians pursuant to The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program. The Superintendent shall be responsible for appointing school guardians. Prior to appointing school guardians, **[OPTION ONE]** the Superintendent must provide the Board with evidence from the _____ Sheriff demonstrating that potential school guardians have met all the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15. **[END OPTION ONE]** **[OPTION TWO]** the Superintendent must verify through evidence provided by the _____ Sheriff that potential school guardians have met all the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15. **[END OPTION TWO]**

School guardians do not have the power of arrest or the authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant incident. In support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of F.S. 790.115, the following individuals may serve as a school guardian:

a District employee or personnel as defined under F.S. 1002.01 who volunteers to serve as a school guardian in addition to his/her official job duties; or

a District employee who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school guardian.

[END OF SCHOOL GUARDIANS OPTION]

School Security Guards

Pursuant to F.S. 1006.12, the **School** Board contracts with one (1) or more security agencies to provide appropriately licensed and trained security guards. All contracts with security agencies, among other things, define the entity or entities responsible for training and the responsibilities for maintaining records relating to training, inspection, and firearm qualification.

All security guards serving in the capacity of a safe-school officer pursuant to this policy and Florida law are in support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of F.S. 790.115 and must aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises.

[END OF SCHOOL SECURITY GUARDS OPTION]

Safe-School Officer Assignment Outside of the Regular School Day

[SELECT ONE OPTION BELOW]

[OPTION 1][]

In addition to during the regular school day, Safe-School officers shall be assigned as follows:

Before and After the Regular School Day

No fewer than one Safe-School officer shall be assigned to be present at each school site when

_____.

_____.

Summer School

No fewer than one Safe-School officer shall be assigned at each school site during summer school on days when students are in attendance.

_____.

Extra-curricular Activities

No fewer than one Safe-School officer shall be assigned to be present during extra-curricular activities when _____.

_____.

School-Sponsored Events

No fewer than one Safe-School officer shall be assigned to the following school-sponsored events:

Graduation;

Grad-night or other similar graduation night activities;

Prom;

Homecoming dances;

[]_____;

[]_____.

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Safety Specialist, is responsible for developing procedures relating to the assignment of Safe-School officers outside of the regular school day, including during, before, and after school, summer school, during extra-curricular activities, and for school-sponsored events.

In developing the procedures, the Superintendent must consider the requirements of this policy and factors such as the number of persons present, the ratio of staff members to students, and other safety measures available.

[END OF OPTION 1]

OR

[OPTION 2][]

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Safety Specialist, is responsible for developing procedures relating to the assignment of Safe-School officers outside of the regular school day, including during, before, and after school, summer school, during extra-curricular activities, and for school-sponsored events. In developing the procedures, the Superintendent must consider factors such as the number of persons present, the ratio of staff members to students, and other safety measures available.

[END OF OPTION 2]

Notification of Incidents Involving Safe-School Officer Discipline, Dismissal or Discharge of a Firearm

~~Discipline and Firearm Discharge~~

Discharge of a Weapon

“Discharge“ means to fire a gun or firearm.

The Superintendent must notice the Office of Safe Schools when a Safe-School officer assigned to any school facility in the District discharges a firearm in the exercise of Safe-School officer duties, other than for training purposes, as provided in F.S. 1006.12 (5). Notification must be made no later than seventy-two (72) hours of the incident by submitting Form SSON-2021 to SafeSchools@fldoe.org.

The Superintendent is also responsible for notifying the _____ County Sheriff immediately after, but no later than seventy-two (72) hours after, a Safe-School Officer discharges their firearm in the exercise of their duties other than for training purposes. ~~the occurrence of the following:~~

Dismissal or Discipline

“Dismissal“ means a Safe-School officer is permanently relieved of their position. Dismissal or termination is involuntary and initiated by the employer, including firings or other discharges for cause. “Discipline“ means a Safe-School officer received a behavior-related official reprimand.

The Superintendent must notify the Office of Safe Schools when a Safe-School officer assigned to a school facility in the District has been disciplined for misconduct or has been dismissed from their duties as a Safe-School officer by their employer, including in cases where the officer is reassigned or moved to another school location, whether by a school district, charter school, law enforcement agency, or private security company, as provided F.S. 1006.12 (5). Notification must be made no later than seventy-two (72) hours of the dismissal or disciplinary action by submitting Form SSON-2021 to SafeSchools@fldoe.org.

The Superintendent must notify the Office of Safe Schools when there is an allegation of misconduct that results in a Safe-School officer being placed on administrative leave or reassigned pending completion of an investigation using the procedure set forth in F.A.C. 6A-1.0018 (18)(b)1. Within fifteen (15) days of completion of the investigation, updated information regarding the result of the investigation must be provided to the Office of Safe Schools.

The Superintendent is also responsible for notifying the _____ County Sheriff immediately after, but no

later than seventy-two (72) hours after, a Safe-School Officer is dismissed for misconduct or disciplined. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

The Superintendent shall adopt and implement procedures to verify that charter schools, law enforcement agencies, and private security firms employing or contracting with Safe-School officers timely report discipline and dismissal of Safe-School officers and any discharge of an officer's weapon outside of training activities, so that the District can meet the reporting requirements under Florida law.

~~a Safe-School Officer discharges his/her firearm in the exercise of his/her duties other than for training purposes.~~

F.S. 30.15

F.S. 1006.12

F.A.C. 6A-1.0018

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Legal References

F.S. 30.15

F.S. 1006.12

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8407 - SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS

A. Safe-School Officers Generally.

1. For the protection and safety of students, school personnel, visitors, and property, the District shall partner with local law enforcement agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school in the District. Further, the Board will collaborate with charter school governing boards located in the District to support access to all safe-school officer options available pursuant to Florida law. A Safe-School officer shall be present, at a minimum, during the school day when the school facility is open for instruction as defined by the approved school calendar (See Policy 8210 – School Calendar).
2. For purposes of this policy, safe-school officers include school resource officers and Specialists – Safety and Security.

B. School Resource Officers.

1. The Board will enter into cooperative agreements with law enforcement agencies for the provision of school resource officers. School resource officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1) and employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in F.S. 943.10(4). School resource officers shall:
 - a. undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation as part of their employment with their respective agency;
 - b. abide by Board policies and consult with and coordinate activities through school principals when appropriate; and
 - c. complete mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a national organization with expertise in mental health crisis intervention. Such training must be designed to improve school resource officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.
2. With respect to matters relating to employment, school resource officers shall be responsible to their law enforcement agency, and shall follow their agency's policies and procedures, subject to agreements between the Board and law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by school resource officers which are part of the regular instructional program of schools shall be under the direction of school principals.
3. The powers and duties of law enforcement officers shall continue throughout school resource officers' tenure.

C. Specialists – Safety and Security.

1. In accordance with F.S. 1006.12, the Board has adopted a hybrid model through the use of Specialists – Safety and Security. This model includes the hiring of qualified individuals that meet the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15. These individuals are trained and supervised by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office through a cooperative agreement. In addition to adhering to Board policies and procedures, all Specialists – Safety and Security are responsible for adhering to the policies and procedures of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office related to their assignment.
2. It is the intent of the Board to utilize the Specialists – Safety and Security pursuant to The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program. Specialists – Safety and Security do not have the power of arrest or the authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant incident.

3. Prior to appointing Specialists – Safety and Security, the Superintendent must provide the Board with evidence from the Brevard County Sheriff demonstrating that potential Specialists – Safety and Security have met all the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15.
4. The identity of Specialists – Safety and Security is confidential and exempt under Florida law.

D. Notification of Incidents Involving Safe-School Officer Discipline and Firearm Discharge.

1. The Superintendent is responsible for notifying the Brevard County Sheriff, the Office of Safe Schools, and the Board Chair immediately after, but no later than seventy-two (72) hours after, the occurrence of the following:

1.a. a safe-school officer is dismissed for misconduct or disciplined; or

b. a safe-school officer discharges his/her firearm in the exercise of his/her duties other than for training purposes.

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3. The Superintendent shall adopt and implement procedures to verify that charter schools, law enforcement agencies, and private security firms employing or contracting with Safe-School officers timely report discipline and dismissal of Safe-School officers and any discharge of an officer's ~~weapon~~firearm outside of training activities, so that the District can meet the reporting requirements under Florida law.

E. Safe-School Officer Assignment Outside of the Regular School Day

2. The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Safety Specialist and Director of District and School Security, is responsible for developing procedures relating to the assignment of Safe-School officers outside of the regular school day, including during, before, and after school, summer school, during extra-curricular activities, and for school-sponsored events. In developing the procedures, the Superintendent must consider factors such as the number of persons present, the ratio of staff members to students, and other safety measures available.

Adopted 6/25/19

Revised 9/10/19

Revised

Legal References

F.S. 30.15

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**Clean
Version**

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Revised _____

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