

BOARD MEMO

Date: November 11, 2021

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION

Board Agenda: Yes

No _____

FROM: John Contreras, Director of Safety and Security Services

THROUGH: Dr. Alicia Hart, PMP, Acting Chief of Facilities and Operations
Stephen M. Wilkins, Ed.D., Chief of Staff
Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Meagan L. Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: School Resource Officer (SRO) Program Update

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Systemic Alignment

Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 3: Strategic Plan Implementation

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Improving Customer Relationship Services and Management

Communications and Customer Service for Internal Stakeholders

SUMMARY:

On Tuesday, October 12, 2021, the Alexandria City Council voted to reinstate the SRO program through the end of the school year. Upon learning of this decision, ACPS leadership and Secondary Principals began planning for the return of the SRO program. A summary of planning and implementation is captured below:

SRO Assignments

Five fully trained and certified School Resource Officers (SRO's) have been placed at previously approved school sites:

- Alexandria City High School (ACHS) King Street Campus (2)
- ACHS Minnie Howard (1)
- Francis C. Hammond (1)
- George Washington (1)

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School Law Enforcement Partnership (SLEP) Guide

- ACPS and the Alexandria Police Department (APD) have reopened the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for review in order to update processes, procedures and program criteria as necessary.
- A working draft of the updated MOU was shared with APD on October 15, 2021. APD has reviewed and suggested edits.
- We are meeting with APD leadership on November 5, 2021 to review their proposed edits.
- ACPS and APD have reverted to the previously approved MOU signed in November 2020 until the updated MOU is signed by both ACPS (Superintendent) and APD (Chief of Police).
- The revised MOU will return to the School Board for approval at another meeting.

Next Steps

1. Complete the MOU process.
2. Collect and analyze SRO program data according to the agreed upon MOU.
3. Provide the School Board and the Superintendent with the year's first review of the SRO program. The goal is to provide this report by January 14, 2022.
4. Provide quarterly updates as required.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Facilities and Operations, Office of Safety and Security Services, will provide updates on the School Resource Officer (SRO) program as defined within the MOU and/or as requested by the School Board.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the board memo regarding updates on the reinstated School Resource Officer (SRO) program.

IMPACT: The School Resource Officer (SRO) program is one safety, security and support measure in place at ACPS secondary schools. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides a collaborative framework between ACPS and APD regarding SRO program administration and data collection. Data collection and analysis will assist in determining the efficacy of the SRO program.

CONTACT:

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