

3055 School Resource Officers

The school district must have in effect a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with any law enforcement agency or any security agency prior to using the services of a school resource officer (SRO) or security guard. The MOU shall comply with all state law requirements.

Employer. The SRO or security guard are employees of the law enforcement agency or security agency.

Required Training. Each SRO and security guard and at least one administrator in each elementary or secondary school where an SRO or security guard is assigned must attend a minimum of twenty hours of training focused on school-based law enforcement, including, but not limited to, coursework focused on school law, student rights, understanding special needs students and students with disabilities, conflict de-escalation techniques, ethics for school resource officers and security guards, teenage brain development, adolescent behavior, implicit bias training, diversity and cultural awareness, trauma-informed responses, and preventing violence in school settings.

Prosecution Referral Records. The district must create and maintain records on each student referral for prosecution from an SRO in response to an incident occurring at school, on school grounds, or at a school-sponsored event. The records must allow for analysis of related data and must include the reason for the referral and the federally identified demographic characteristics of each student.

Parent or Guardian Notification. School officials are not required to notify a parent or guardian or give them an opportunity to be present if the student is subjected to questioning or interrogation by a school official. School officials will notify a parent or guardian or give them an opportunity to be present if the student is subjected to questioning or interrogation by an SRO or security guard operating in conjunction with a school official as provided in the school's separate policy regarding investigations, arrests, and other student contact by law enforcement, Health and Human Services, or other child welfare agencies.

Rights Advisement. School officials will not advise students of any constitutional rights before student questioning or interrogation. The advisement, if any, shall be made by the SRO or security guard as provided by their agencies' policies and procedures.

Referral to Law Enforcement for Prosecution. The school district's student discipline policy is the school policy required by state law that addresses the student conduct or actions that will be referred to law enforcement for prosecution and the type of student conduct or actions that will be resolved as a disciplinary matter by a school official and not referred to law enforcement.

Restraint and Seclusion. The school district's restraint and seclusion policy applies to the use of restraint and seclusion on students by school district employees. SROs and security guards that are not employees of the school district are not governed by the school district's restraint and seclusion policy. Instead, they will be governed by the restraint and seclusion policies, practices, and procedures implemented by their employers.

Filing and Posting the MOU. The superintendent shall provide a copy of any initial MOU entered into under this policy to the Nebraska Department of Education (Department) or post a copy on the school district's website within three months of its adoption. The superintendent shall thereafter file any changes to the MOU with the Department or post it on the school district's website no later than January 1st of each year.

Complaint Process. Any student or parent who wishes to express a concern or file a complaint about an SRO or security guard and the practices of the SRO or security guard must follow the school district's complaint procedure.

Adopted on: June 8, 2020

Renumbered on: June 12, 2023

Reviewed on: _____