

EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

TITLE: SCHOOL POLICE OFFICERS/
SECURITY OFFICERS

ADOPTED: MARCH 17, 2014
MARCH 19, 2018

REPEAL: JANUARY 27, 2020 (see
805.2 School Security Personnel)

516. SCHOOL POLICE OFFICERS/SECURITY OFFICERS	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for students and staff while in school, at school functions, traveling to and from school and on school property at any time. As a result it is the intention of the board to establish a School Police Department/Security Department comprised of School Police Officers and Security officers.</p>
<p>2. Authority SC 778</p>	<p>The Board is authorized by law to hire School Police Officers and request that certain powers be conferred upon such School Police Officers by the Monroe/Pike county Court of Common Pleas.</p> <p>The Board shall direct the solicitor to apply to a judge of the Monroe/Pike County Court of Common Pleas to appoint a person(s) to act as a School Police Officer for the district.</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 1 et seq. SC 778 53 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 2161 et seq.</p>	<p>School Police Officers</p> <p>The Board authorizes the applications for the granting to the School Police Officer(s) the following powers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The authority to enforce good order on School Property, School Buses, including but not limited to, vehicles used under transportation agreements with third party contractors to transport students, at bus stops involving students and at school functions. 2. The authority to exercise the same powers exercised under authority of law or ordinance by the municipal police of the legal entities comprising the district including but not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The issuance of summary citations. b. The power to exercise arrest and citation power for violations of law. c. The authority to exercise arrest and citation power for violations of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code and the Pennsylvania Crimes Code and the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code. d. To present those arrested before a district justice juvenile probation authorities, mental health facility, or other court of record and proffer charges against the arrested individual under the law of the

<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Commonwealth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">e. To exercise all powers conferred by the Monroe/Pike County Court of Common Pleas on District Property within their jurisdiction.f. To possess firearms while on duty when they have obtained training as authorized by the Municipal Police Officers Training act 53 Pa. C.S.A. Sec 2161 et seq and obtained a certificate of completion of the Act 120 Pennsylvania Municipal Police Education and Training, and maintain annual Firearm Qualification. <p>3. The authority to use reasonable force in accordance with Title 18 Pennsylvania Crimes Code Section 508, use of force in Law Enforcement, Section 509, use of force by persons with special responsibility for the care, discipline or safety of others, and Section 505, use of force in self-protection.</p> <p><u>Body Armor</u></p> <p>In order to create the safest working environment possible for all members of the ESASD Police Department, soft body armor will be issued to sworn member of this department that request such equipment.</p> <p>All School Police receiving soft body armor purchased by the district shall wear the soft body armor while on-duty.</p> <p>On-duty shall be defined as whenever an officer is receiving regular pay or overtime and is working for the district in a police capacity.</p> <p>The only exceptions to wearing the soft body armor while on duty will be when attending court, attending training, attending off-duty hearings, or any other reason approved by the Chief of School Police. Any discrepancies as to the interpretation of these exceptions will be resolved by the Office of the Superintendent or the Chief of School Police.</p> <p>An applicant must be appointed by the Board, approved by the Court of Common Pleas, and take the oath of office before s/he is officially a School Police Officer.</p> <p>School Police Officers shall be under the supervision of the Chief of School Police. The Chief of School Police shall be under the supervision of the Superintendent or designee.</p>
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The Chief of School Police shall be responsible for the daily operation of the School Police/Security Department. The Chief of School Police shall have the following primary responsibilities:

1. Recommend to the Board additions to and deletions from, the School Police Officers' roster. The roster shall be continuously updated and reviewed annually.
2. Assign School Police to district activities, weekend and night patrols, and non-school functions taking place on district property, as necessary, in coordination with district administrative officials.
3. Evaluate the performance of each School Police Officer in collaboration with the administration.
4. Recommend appropriate training for all officers.
5. Assure that all training and certifications are up-to-date.
6. Assure that all officers are properly uniformed and equipped.
7. Maintain communication with all officers and periodically observe officers when on assignments for the purpose of officer evaluation.

School Security Officers

The Board shall appoint school security officers as authorized by law. Such school security officers appointed shall possess and exercise the following powers and duties:

1. The authority to enforce good order on school property; on school buses, including vehicles used under transportation agreements with third party contractors to transport students; and at school functions.
2. The authority to detain individuals until the arrival of the School Police officer/and or other police officers from the requisite jurisdiction.
3. The authority to use reasonable force in accordance with law. Appropriate school administrators and school security officers are persons entrusted with the care and supervision for a special purpose of a minor and the Board believes that reasonable force may be necessary to further that special purpose, including the maintenance of reasonable discipline during school, class or other times. Such reasonable force used shall not cause or create a substantial risk of death, serious bodily injury, disfigurement, extreme pain, mental distress, or gross degradation.

The Superintendent or Designee shall be responsible for the overall operation of the School Police/ Security department, which is comprised of both School Police officer(s) and School Security officer(s).

The Chief of School Police will be responsible for the daily operation of the School Police/Security Department.

Building administrators shall be responsible for controlling behavior and enforcing the student discipline policy.

Member of the security department shall be responsible to protect administrators and staff in their efforts to maintain order within the district facilities.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish guidelines for the operation of the School Police/Security Department in order to achieve its objectives.

The following shall be established to govern the operation of the security staff:

1. Members of the security department shall patrol the halls, restrooms, unlocked area not in use, and the perimeters of facilities to which they are assigned.
2. The security officers shall assist building principals in any matter related to safety and security, but shall not have the responsibility for maintaining classroom discipline.
3. The security officers shall notify school administrators of any student engaged in code of conduct violations. If a criminal act is observed the security officer shall notify the School Police Officer who will then notify the School Administrator.
4. The security officers shall not be involved in discussions with the parents/guardians of students. The building administrators or designee may request the presence of the security officers during parent/guardian meetings for security purposes only.
5. The building administrator shall forward to the School Police officer copies of discipline reports that involve criminal behavior. The School Police officer shall review all cases referred to him/her and initiate criminal charges if warranted. The final decision to initiate criminal prosecution rest with the Monroe/Pike County district attorney's office.
6. Member of the Security department shall assist in monitoring student arrivals, departures, lunches and assemblies.
7. All actions by members of the security department shall be documented on department forms. Copies of security department reports shall be forwarded to the building administrator and Chief of School Police.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec 778

Crimes Code – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 1 et seq.

Municipal Police Officers Training Act – 53 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 2161 et seq.