



MONROE CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Bill No. 19-138

SUBJECT:	Discussion: School Safety (Joint Discussion with Monroe School District)
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DATE:	DEPT:	CONTACT:	PRESENTER:	ITEM:
06/18/2019	Administration Police	Deborah Knight Debbie Willis	Deborah Knight Jeff Jolley	Discussion Items #1

Discussion: 06/19/2018; 12/04/2018; 06/18/19

Attachments: 1. None.

REQUESTED ACTION: Discuss the City’s School Resource Officer program and the proactive actions the Monroe Police Department and School District are taking to maintain safe schools to include a recap of the 2019-2020 school year.

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

The recent school tragedies across the County have sparked national and local conversations around school safety. Following the incident in Parkland, Florida, in February 2018, the City Council asked for information on the proactive actions the Monroe Police Department and School District are taking to maintain safe schools.

The Monroe School District includes five elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools (Monroe High School and Leaders in Learning), and the Sky Valley Education Center. Three schools, Chain Lake Elementary, Hidden River Middle School, and Maltby Elementary, are located outside the City limits. The School District serves over 6,950 students.

The purpose of this agenda bill is to review and discuss the City’s School Resource Officer Program; proactive actions the Police Department and School District are taking to maintain safe schools; and discuss additional measures the City, School District and Sheriff’s Office may want to initiate together to establish a culture of safety in our schools.

School Resource Officer

Officer Springer has been the City’s School Resource Officer (SRO) since January 2013. Since the last discussion on December 4, 2018, Officer Springer has been selected for the Community Outreach Officer position and will be leaving the School Resource Officer program. The department will be conducting a process to select the next SRO as soon as possible to prepare for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The department will be targeting the newly selected SRO to send to the next available SRO Basic training.

The department would like to recognize Officer Springer for his outstanding six years of service to the school district with a Chief’s Distinguished Service Award

2019-2020 review – The SRO began the school year with a five day a week work schedule. The SRO and police department responded to approximately 151 calls for service at Monroe High School and 58 calls for service at Park Place Middle School. In addition, our traffic units periodically monitored traffic at both schools logging approximately 50 traffic stops. Officer Springer conducted personal safety classes for all 8th graders at Park Place Middle School. Other officers put on the “Red Man” suit to assist with the exercise portion of the personal safety training.

School Safety

The Monroe School District continues to be deliberate in preparing for school emergencies and has initiated a number of proactive practices to prevent tragedies from happening in our schools.

The Safety, Security and Risk department, under the oversight of Greg Burns, created a standardized district-wide security team of four security specialists this year. Data collection and investigation practices have also been standardized, allowing our district to establish a baseline of data.

MSD District-Wide Data, From 09/01/18-Present:

- 391 ICS Easy Alert/Rapid Responder Activations
 - Last year, 267 activations
- 199 Security Cases Investigated
 - 167 Searches completed
 - 82.9% of searches resulted in contraband
 - 41.9% of cases involved vaping/cigarette violations
 - 18.6% of cases involved drugs including alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, meth, Xanax and prescription medication.
 - 8% of cases were assault investigations
 - 5% of cases were threat investigations
 - 22% of incidents were captured on video footage
 - Most Active Month: October (30 incidents)
 - Calmest Month: February (4 incidents)
 - Peak incident times: 0800-1100 hours

Greg also facilitated our annual multi-agency table-top exercise, hosting 65 participants from 7 different agencies and 12 school departments, mutually working through a crisis scenario. We also hosted DITEP training and Stop the Bleed training for school staff, in addition to our regular emergency preparedness and readiness courses.

All district schools participated in at least one dynamic violent intruder drill this year, including a multi-departmental pre-planning meeting and rollout in accordance with our MED safety protocols. Staff and administrative take-aways from these drills included a request for more practice with dynamic drills (vs usual static drills), better communication during an emergency event, and more training for staff and students regarding best-practices to take during an emergency.

Our district was awarded one of 16 nation-wide STOP violence grants for school safety from the department of justice, giving the district additional funding to continue the success found in our Student Threat Assessment Team (STAT), use of our anonymous reporting systems, and advanced training in the Move/Evade/Defend (MED) program. Additional 3-day, 2-hour per day professional development courses have been offered at PPMS, FWE and MHS focusing on early intervention and response action for violence. More courses will be offered starting next school year at every school in the district. 100% of new employees to the district are trained in our emergency preparedness protocol during new-hire orientation. \$25,000 of award funding has been allotted to develop three 3-5 minute emergency preparedness videos that would be tailored towards introducing all MSD students to our response and preparedness protocols at the start of the school year. These videos will be shown in all classrooms (videos will be age-appropriate) and will be available to the community.

The district has also acquired and is rolling out two new technology systems: first, a new desktop alerting software, used to send marquee or full-screen alert messages to all devices connected to the district network. This system will begin use in the 2019/20 school year during drills and real events. Second, a Safe Visitor volunteer and school visitor management solution. Four schools and the district office will implement new protocols regarding staff ID and volunteer background

checks starting this summer, with the goal of 100% district implementation by the start of the 2020/21 year.

New and remodeled facilities include more safety features such as single entry and security monitoring. A SVPP grant for \$500,000 was recently submitted to install similar vestibules at all other reasonable school locations, along with electronic access systems and lockdown features. Awards will be announced later this year.

The district would like to recognize Officer Springer and his service to the Monroe School District through the presentation of the MSD's Risk, Safety and Security Department Challenge Coin Award. We look forward to the expedited selection of a quality replacement that will model the high standard of student and community interaction Officer Springer has set.

FISCAL IMPACTS

There is no impact at this time.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

There are no time constraints; this is an ongoing discussion on school safety.

ALTERNATIVES

Discuss additional measures the City and School District may want to initiate, together with the Snohomish Sheriff's Office, to establish a culture of safety and security for faculty and students in Monroe schools.