

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Landings Administrative Complex

1980 Landings Blvd.

10:00 a.m.

June 28, 2018 Special Board Meeting

Call to Order (10:00 a.m.)

Flag Salute

Special Presentations/Moments of Pride

**1. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOL POLICE DEPARTMENT:
OVERVIEW AND BUDGET**

Description

Michael Andreas, Executive Director Mitsi Corcoran, Chief Financial Officer

Recommendation

n/a

Attachment: [2018 SCS PD Presentation 06282018.pdf](#)

Attachment: [SCSPD Detailed Police Department Budget Handout w. Logos.pdf](#)

Attachment: [SCSPD Gear 06282018.pdf](#)

Attachment: [SCSPD Detailed Police Department Budget Handout w. Logos-Start-up.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Tom Barwin, Sarasota City Manager, was welcomed to the table. The City of Sarasota values the relationship with the School District and complimented the many students who have been working with the City. He asked the Board to influence Tallahassee and Washington D.C. to spend time talking about the bigger issue of firearms: the need for comprehensive background checks before a person buys or owns a gun, the need to have strict rules for storage of firearms in the homes and transportation of them, and military-grade assault weapons need to be strictly limited to military and highly trained police personnel. Our young people should never fear going to school.

The Chair invited Chief DiPino, Chief Morales, and Chief Mattmuller to the table.

Dr. Bowden introduced Michael Andreas and Mitsi Corcoran to present the Police Department Update. Michael Andreas presented a power point which listed an overview and a two-year implementation plan was presented, as well as operational concerns from the Sheriff's meeting were answered.

2018-19 School Year: Continue existing partnerships with local law enforcement agencies in middle and high school (plus EEB and VES). Internal staffing for the 2018-19 school year would be: Chief of Police - 1 Police Sergeants - 3 School Resource Officers - 24 Secretary/Bookkeeper - 1

2019-2020 School Year: Continue existing partnerships with City of Venice to serve VHS and VES Internal police department to serve all remaining schools.

Internal staffing for the 2019-2020 school year would be: Chief of Police - 1 Police Sergeants - 6 School Resource Officers - 44

A very lengthy discussion ensued regarding steps prior to offering a candidate a position, officers to be/are FDLE certified, the amount of time this would take for them to be certified, the vendors for background investigation and length of time of an investigation, if they are google checked, references, training and certification, the mental health component training, officer and capital equipment purchases, vehicle purchases, and a comprehensive budget update (upfront costs), the dispatch service, an evidence room, and our jurisdictional area.

Chief DiPino commented on the length of time for a background investigation. Agreed with the Superintendent of the visual deterrent of a marked car on a school campus plus the ability to respond quicker.

Chief Morales commented on the purchase of NPPD used sedans and purchasing new vehicles from a car dealership.

Chief Mattmuller was thanked for the department's help with the property and evidence needs. He explained how the third SRO for VHS had been planned since last fall.

Jane Goodwin thanked Michael Andreas for time he has spent working on the security department's setting up of a police force. Thanked the law enforcement partners and look forward to working together. She has trust in the Superintendent and the staff to accomplish this. The students need to feel safe.

Caroline Zucker also thanked the Chiefs. She is secure with the decision to develop a police force because she trusts the staff and Superintendent.

Shirley Brown reiterated how the district's decision came about. She has hope that the relationship with the current SROs will stay in place. She commented on the liability insurance, the high-risk pension costs, the evidence room, our jurisdictional area, and the previous offer that would allow us to not develop a police force.

Eric Robinson commented on the relationship the SRO at BHS has with the students and school. Three students at Venice Elementary wrote an essay on the SRO! And the SRO at VHS is so connected with everyone. Thanked the Chiefs for their partnerships. He explained why he is still concerned about doing the police force.

Bridget Ziegler thanked the Chiefs and wants to continue the partnerships. She asked the Chiefs if they have in-house counsel to assist them to avoid any litigation. The response from the Chiefs was they have a city attorney. She raised the question on the cost of recruiting teachers, and commented on the offer which would allow us not to develop a police force. Bridget implored the Board to really think about going in this direction, and wants to make sure that everyone is comfortable with developing a police force.

Mitsi Corcoran responded to the Chair's question regarding liability insurance.

Dr. Bowden commented that there are not a lot of remaining unknowns in establishing the police department. The budgets are incredibly detailed. He commented on the dispatching service. A meeting with the Sheriff or designee will need to be scheduled to discuss the dispatch service. Dr. Bowden responded to Mr. Robinson's concerns regarding the police force. Contracts will be on the July 17th agenda for approval.

Superintendent's Report

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Description

Update on Negotiations for SRO/SRDs from Local Agencies for the 2018-2019 School Year

Recommendation

n/a

Minutes:

The Chair invited Sheriff Tom Knight to the table. Colonel Kurt Hoffman, Chief Legal Counsel; Major Paul Richard, Law Enforcement Division Commander-Operations; and Marissa Marchena joined the Sheriff.

Sheriff Knight's goal today is to discuss and finalize some items with the people who are elected by the community to represent them. Discussion ensued regarding the contract and operations. The Sheriff emphasized throughout the meeting the need to converse with each other to have open lines of communication. They are here to make the district successful so will work towards that goal. The Sheriff's Dept. and the law enforcement partners will make sure nothing happens.

Col. Hoffman explained the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act and the 2018-2019 School Safety Program Agreement. A significant amount of time has been spent on the safety act internally and with law enforcement partners to ensure the provisions from both the training side and the contractual side are where they need to be. He discussed the language in the bill and the contract; the county and district need to be in compliance with the bill. Col. Hoffman explained the services provided by the Sheriff's Dept.: helicopter usage, K-9 dog, forensic unit, detectives on/off campus.

Major Richard commented on the wonderful service the law enforcement partners provide and how closely everyone works together. He continued to explain the evolution of the resource program; the programs they provide to the students, combined years of law enforcement experience, supervisor of the school resource program, and the relationships between the SROs and the schools. A video of the SRO program was presented. Riverview High School's number and importance of the SROs on campus was discussed along with the needed supervisory personnel. Major Richard explained jurisdictional authority - the Sheriff Dept. has authority in the whole county and they would be involved in situations, social media issues, etc. Jurisdictional authority for the police force will need to be discussed.

A power point was presented which included the 80/20 cost-sharing with current staffing. As explained by the Sheriff, items can be tweaked according to the discussion today. An elementary agreement needs to be discussed and finalized.

Shirley Brown commented that new items had been added to contract; agreed with the Superintendents recommendation; would like commitment from Sheriff we will have help with DCF, etc. and maybe keep people on after we have our own force due to times we will need our law enforcement partners. Agreeable to the 3 supervisory positions. Interested in hearing about the DCF meeting taking place today, the Sandy Hook Promise program, and if retired resource officers would be interested in joining the district's police department.

Jane Goodwin commented on the past trust issues and hopes that is behind everyone and the need to now work as one unified voice. The SROs at RHS should stay the same as the current number along with the supervisory person. Since we are in transition, we should keep staff

while going through this process. We will need everyone's help, support, and to keep the dialogue open.

Bridget Ziegler stayed on course with the checklist to be completed today. The ppt showing the 80/20 current staffing was shown for discussion. She would like the current SRO to stay at EEB due to the relationships that have been built. She agrees with the Sheriff's staff listing.

Dr. Bowden detailed the discussions regarding the number of SROs at RHS as well as the number at the other high schools. A two-tiered contract was discussed - a contingency contract and a standard contract. Regarding the hiring of officers, by end of today we should have 19 officers, 3 sergeants, and a Chief of Police. Our confidence level is very high that we are going to reach the staffing levels of staffing 21 elementary schools. His personal recommendation is to go with 10 officers just in middle and high schools for 18-19.

Caroline Zucker commented on the option for the district to staff the elementary schools and the law enforcement partners to staff the middle and high schools. She questioned the need for the supervisory staff member. Changes should be made now instead of waiting. Reiterated that the Sheriff and Superintendent need to negotiate the contract.

Eric Robinson asked what other services can the district expect and what services will be changing. How will all this work out? Just for the middle and high schools? A new contract each year? Agreeable to the 3 supervisory positions. Asked for clarification of jurisdictional authority and dispatching. What all are we responsible for? Besides the deputies, are there additional costs we need to be concerned about?

The Chair asked for resolution on this component, to confirm that the Board wants to continue with the 80/20 offer? A motion was made:

Motion: Jane Goodwin

Second: Eric Robinson

Motion:

Approval of the motion that would allow us to continue our contract with the Sheriff's Department for:

School Resource Officers - 10 Middle & High Schools

School Resource Officer - 1 Elementary

Supervisory staff of three (3): Sergeant – 2; Lieutenant - 1, as presented.

Caroline Zucker asked if the SRO is for Emma E. Booker. The contract should continue for the year and not have amendments.

Shirley Brown supported the SRO for EEB if this can be amended, if needed, in the future.

Dr. Bowden reminded the Board the Sheriff offered another officer at 80/20%.

Eric Robinson is worried that it could cost us more money.

Bridget Ziegler asked to keep the motion 'as is'.

Jane Goodwin agreed.

Voice vote taken.

Shirley Brown	Aye
Jane Goodwin	Aye
Eric Robinson	Aye
Bridget Ziegler	Aye
Caroline Zucker	Aye

Motion passes: 5:0

With the approval of the motion, the financial terms of the contract have been closed. The legal staff of the Superintendent and Sheriff will work on the contract. There is an annual contract for the middle and high schools; a separate contract for the elementary schools.

Jane Goodwin wanted the charter schools to know they are not forgotten; they are our students and we are concerned for their safety and security.

The Sheriff explained his plan for the charter schools, the start-up costs for a new officer, the SRD2s, and discussions to be had with the Chiefs. A very lengthy discussion ensued regarding items such as a year commitment on SRD2s, deputies, charter schools, and the timeline for the district's new officers.

The Board thanked the Sheriff, Col. Hoffman, and Major Richard for their time and partnership.

Hearing of Citizens

New Business

3. APPROVAL OF INSTRUCTIONAL/CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL REPORT

Description

n/a

Recommendation

That the Instructional/Classified Personnel Report be approved, as presented.

Minutes: No action taken.

4. NEGOTIATION WITH SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR SRDS FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Description

n/a

Recommendation

n/a

Attachment: [County SRO Contract Analysis.pdf](#)

Attachment: [County SRO Contract - 2017-18.pdf](#)

Attachment: [County SRO Contract - 2018-19 PROPOSAL from Sheriff.pdf](#)

Attachment: [County SRO Contract - 2018-19 PROPOSAL to SHERIFF.pdf](#)

Minutes: No action taken.

Announcements/Comments

Adjournment

Minutes:

The Chair adjourned the Special Board Meeting at 1:00 p.m. We certify that the foregoing minutes are a true account of the Special Board Meeting held on June 28, 2018.

Todd Bowden
Secretary

Bridget Ziegler
Chair