



POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

June 28, 2018

OVERVIEW

- On May 15, 2018, the Sarasota County School Board voted for the school district to stand up its own police department in response to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.
- The goal of the Sarasota County Schools Police Department is to significantly enhance security and law enforcement services for the overall school district and individual school sites.
- The establishment of a police force, in addition to collaboration with local law enforcement partners for the 2018-19 school year, is part of a comprehensive systems approach to school safety.



TWO-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION

2018-19 School Year

- Continue existing partnerships with local law enforcement agencies in middle and high school (plus Emma E. Booker and Venice Elementary)
- Contingency contracts for elementary schools
- Internal police department to serve 21 elementary schools

Police Department Staffing

- Chief of Police (1)
- Police Sergeants (3)
- School Resource Officers (24)
- Secretary/Bookkeeper



TWO-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION

2019-2020 School Year

- Continue existing partnerships with City of Venice to serve VHS and Venice Elementary
- Internal police department to serve all remaining schools
 - 22 elementary schools
 - 4 comprehensive high schools
 - 8 middle schools
 - STC/SPHS, Oak Park and Pine View

Police Department Staffing

- Chief of Police (1)
- Police Sergeants (6)
- School Resource Officers (44)



PERSONNEL – Staffing Update

- Chief of Police
 - Paul Grohowski selected on June 12
 - 22 years of experience
 - FDLE certified
 - Former Chief of Police with two agencies
- Police Sergeants
 - 52 applicants
 - 3 offers made and all have accepted
 - 33% diversity – a strong reflection of the Sarasota County community
 - 13+ average years experience in law enforcement
- School Resource Officers
 - 116 applicants
 - 15 offers made and accepted with 4 offers pending
 - 37% diversity
 - 21+ average years experience in law enforcement
 - 66% FDLE Certified and 37% Equivalency of Training (EOT)
 - Some candidates currently serve as SROs and substitute teachers in Sarasota County Schools



BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

- Two vendors under contract to complete background investigations
 - Reference check
 - Criminal background check
 - Fingerprinting
 - Drug test
 - Polygraph test
 - Psychiatric testing
 - Medical/physical test



TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

- All Sarasota County Schools Resource Officers will be FDLE certified and highly trained using national IACP standards and practices
 - Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)*
 - Firearms training*
 - Active shooter training*
 - Sarasota County Schools Standard Operating Procedure orientation
 - High Liability training
 - Tactical Emergency Medical Services training (TEMS)

*Mandatory testing.



OFFICER & CAPITAL EQUIPMENT



CAPITAL EQUIPMENT – Vehicles

- Purchase of 7 Ford Explorers (Bartow Ford)
- Purchase of 8 “gently used” Ford sedans (North Port PD)
- Assignment of vehicles 2018-19
 - Chief of Police (1) ... Explorer
 - Police Sergeants (3) ... Explorer
 - Floating Officers (3) ... Explorer
 - Sedans to be removed from service in North Port throughout 2018-19
- Assignment of vehicles 2019-20
 - Chief of Police (1) ... Explorer
 - Police Sergeants (6) ... Explorer
 - High Schools (5) ... Sedans
 - Floating Officers (3) ... Sedans



COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET UPDATE

EXPENSE	OPERATING	CAPITAL
• Start-up Costs	\$43,845	-
• Personnel	\$1,719,669	-
• Officer Equipment	\$30,900	\$131,364
• Operating Expense	\$171,100	-
• Capital Equipment	-	\$387,589
• Computer Equipment	-	\$81,000
• TOTAL BUDGET 2018-19	\$1,921,669	\$599,954



NEXT STEPS

- Complete background screenings and initiate training
- Continue search for additional SRO candidates
- Finalize local law enforcement partner agreements for 2018-19
- Negotiate dispatch solutions
- Property and evidence agreement with VPD

