



Worcester Public Schools

A Collaborative-Proactive Approach to Providing a Safe Teaching and Learning Environment

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New Massachusetts Police Reform LAW

School Resource Officers

The Act makes significant changes to programs for school resource officers. Neither school department personnel nor any school resource officer may report to any law enforcement officer or agency, any information relating to a student or a student's family member concerning, suspected, alleged, or confirmed gang affiliation, unless it is germane to a specific unlawful activity the school is otherwise required to report.

The Act requires the creation of a new model school resource office memorandum of understanding ("MOU") review commission to develop and review the existing model MOU and make recommendations for changes the commission deems appropriate. The MOU shall prohibit school resource officers from serving as school disciplinarians, enforcers of school regulations or in place of school psychologists, psychiatrists or counselors and the use of police powers to address traditional school discipline issues, including non-violent disruptive behavior.

The Act provides that a chief of police, at the request of the superintendent of schools and subject to appropriation, shall assign at least one school resource officer to serve a city or town.

School Resource Officers Assignment SY 2019-2020

Worcester Police Department Assignments to Worcester Public Schools

- One (1) full-time SRO assigned to each of the five (5) Comprehensive High Schools
- Two (2) full-time officers assigned to Middle and Elementary Schools
- A full-time Gang Unit officer available upon request
- SRO Training (5 Days) - March 14, 15, 16, 21, 22 (2016)
 - A total of 20 police officers and high school administrators attended (See attachment)

5 Comprehensive High Schools
School Resource Officer (*full-time presence*)



Work with Worcester Public Schools
Safety Director when needed

Report to the Worcester Police
Department officials on supervision

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Daily checks - internally and externally
- Cafeteria/lunch duty
- Greets buses and parents at start and dismissal times
- Respond to emergencies when requested
- Notify administration with suspicious activities
- Assist with evaluations, lock-downs, fire drills

Prevention Initiatives/Strategies

Crisis Response Plan Manual

- Lock-Down Drills
- Evacuations
- Emergency Medical Response

Annual School Safety Training DVDs on Physical Restraint, Bullying, Crisis Response & ALICE

School Safety Audit

Worcester Youth Violence Plan Initiative

School Safety Forums

- Bullying Conference
- Drug Education Workshops

Handle with Care

Emergency Guide for Personnel

Respect

Anti-Gang Classroom Program
Grade 6 Health Classes

Bullying Prevention and
Intervention Plan
(See attachment)

Medical Emergency Response Plan
(Michael's Law)

Distribution of Sex Offender
Registry Information List

Intervention

(In lieu of suspension/dropout)

Alternative Programs

Threat Protocol

High-Risk Interventions

Transition Program

Student School Safety Center

1) Elementary

2) Secondary

Drug Education Program

Intensive Case Management Program
with Students at Risk

SSYI, SMART

Alternative Education Programs

- Central MA Special Education Collaborative
- Woodward Day Alternative Program
- Gerald Creamer Center Day Program
- Gerald Creamer Center Evening Program
- Challenge & Reach Program
- Credit Recovery Program

The Student School Safety Center Referral Process

- Principal is notified that a threat has occurred.
- Principal contacts staff to access the situation.
- Psychologist/adjustment counselor completes “Student Safety Assessment”(SSA); conveys results to principal.
- Principal utilizes “SSA” and other information to determine if a referral to the Student School Safety Center (SSSC) is appropriate.
- School Safety Director confirms, with principal, student placement at the SSSC.
- Within two (2) school days, principal sends the “SSA” narrative to the School Safety Director.
- On the third day of the student’s attendance at the SSSC, principal or designee, attends the Exit Interview.

Other School Safety Initiatives

Bullying Programs:

- B.R.A.C.E. (*Bullying Remediation and Court Education*)
- First time bullying offender session
- Parent Outreach Programs
- Social Media/Digital Learning
- Cyberbullying (Student Presentations from the District Attorney Office)

Training Programs:

- Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate (ALICE)
- Federal Grant recently received for WPS/Worcester Police
- Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (CPI) – De-escalation for Volatile Students