

POLICY

ROCHELLE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPERTY
7446 SCHOOL SECURITY PROGRAM

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The safety of students, staff members, and visitors on school grounds is an important concern for the Board of Education.

School Resource Officer Program

The Board of Education authorizes a School Resource Officer Program in partnership with the municipality and local law enforcement. The Program is designed for municipal officials, law enforcement officers, and school authorities to work together to identify major problems faced by their schools and to create a more secure school environment through the presence of law enforcement officers within the school district. A School Resource Officer assigned to the school district shall remain an employee of the municipality and its Police Department.

The School Resource Officer may be a full-time Police Officer or a Class Three Special Law Enforcement Officer employed by the municipality in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.11. A Class Three Special Law Enforcement Officer is authorized to exercise full powers and duties similar to those of a permanent regularly appointed full-time police officer while providing security at a public-school during hours when school is normally in session or when occupied by students or school staff members. The use of a firearm by a Class Three Officer is authorized pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.14. A Class Three Officer shall not carry a firearm except when engaged in the actual performance of the Officer's official duties as a School Resource Officer and when specifically authorized by the Chief of Police or in the absence of the Chief, a designee. The Board of Education and the municipality shall enter into a partnership agreement that sets forth the respective obligations of the municipality, local law enforcement, and the school district. The agreement shall include, but is not limited to, the following terms: the number of police officers assigned to the school district; the school(s) to be covered; the days of police coverage in the school district; the process for the Police Department to assign and the process for the Board of Education to approve a School Resource Officer(s); the duties of the assigned School Resource Officer(s); the reporting requirements for the School Resource Officer; and the financial obligations of the parties. The School Resource Officer Program Agreement shall be approved by the Board of Education.

A School Resource Officer who is a full-time Police Officer or a Class Three Special Law Enforcement Officer must comply with all statutes and codes regarding their law enforcement status and all other statutory and administrative code responsibilities.

This Policy will be reviewed and approved by the Board attorney for compliance with applicable statutes and administrative code provisions before initial adoption and subsequent re-adoptions by the Board.

N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4; 2C:39-5; 2C:39-6; 2C:58-4;
40A:14-146.10; 40A:14-146.11;
40A:14-146.14

Adopted: Sept 27, 2022