



FY 2023 Recommended Budget Budget Question

Board Question #: 19

BUDGET QUESTION: Please clarify the roles between the SROs and the added School Safety Resource position.

RESPONDING DEPARTMENT/OFFICE: Schools

RESPONSE: The requested School Security Resource position in the proposed FY23 budget would assist with the coordination of school safety specifically as it relates to the facilities and grounds. This position would support the extensive duties of the current Director of School Safety who addresses not only ensuring the school facilities and grounds are safe, but also oversees student discipline and implementation of the Student Code of Conduct. In reviewing the scope of the Director of School Safety duties, the School Safety Resource position would support the director by overseeing the School Safety Committee, coordinating the safety audits with all 31 schools/sites, coordinating and facilitating professional development for School Security Officer in accordance with DCJS requirements, coordinating with all the schools/site mandatory safety drills, and ensuring school safety equipment is current and operational at all of our schools/sites. This position would coordinate with the county Chief of Emergency Management to support the scheduled North Anna Power Station emergency training exercises and school evacuation assembly center drills. In addition, this position would serve as the liaison with the Sheriff's Office and partner with local law enforcement to execute any recommendations for enhancing safety practices.

The School Resource Officers (SRO) are assigned to each of the schools by the Sheriff's Office to assist the administration, particularly when there is a violation of the law on school grounds by any stakeholder. Moreover, the SROs are making positive connections with students to be proactive and to minimize severe disciplinary infractions on school grounds. SROs are accessible and available to respond to incidents that threaten the safety of our students, teachers, and staff before, during, and after school hours.

ESTIMATE OF STAFF TIME SPENT ON RESPONSE: