

Agenda of Special Meeting and Board Workshop

The Board of Trustees Jarrell ISD

A Special Meeting and Board Workshop of the Board of Trustees of Jarrell ISD will be held May 3, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Jarrell ISD Annex Cafeteria, 508 N. 5th Street, Jarrell, TX 76537.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

1. Call to Order, Establishment of Quorum
2. Pledge to American and Texas Flags
3. Public Comments
4. Budget Workshop presented by Robert Navarro and Bob Mabry
5. Informational Items
 - A. Security Presentation presented by Dr. Toni Hicks 2
6. Adjourn to Closed Session: The Board may recess into Closed Session for purposes permitted by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Tex. Gov't Code Sections 551.001 et seq., 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.075, 551.076, 551.082, 551.083, 551.084
 - A. Discussion of Personnel, Gov't. Code 551.074
 - B. Consideration regarding the deployment of security personnel or devices. Tex. Gov't Code 551.076
 - C. Consultation with the District's lawyer regarding the deployment of security personnel or devices. This consultation may take place telephonically. Tex. Gov't Code 551.071; 551.129
 - D. Discussion of Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property, Tex. Gov't Code 551.072
7. Return to Open Session and Take Action if Needed on Closed Session Items
 - A. Possible Action on Personnel
 1. Consideration and Possible Action on Approving Additional Positions
 2. Consideration and Possible Action on Accepting Resignations
 3. Consideration and Possible Action on Employing Personnel
 - B. Consideration and Possible Action to Authorize the Superintendent to Investigate Security Personnel
 - C. Consideration and Possible Action on Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property
8. Adjournment

Safety and Security Options

- Police Department
- School Resource Officer
- Guardian Program
- Marshal Program

Police Department ISD

What is the process to add a school district Police Department?

- Texas Education Code 37.081 allows the board of trustees of any school district to employ security personnel, enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local law enforcement agency for the provision of school resource officers, and commission peace officers.
- A board of trustees authorizes the creation of a police department.
- [TCOLE's Special Services Division](#) must be contacted to begin the application process for the department's authorization to operate.
- TCOLE will require specific preliminary policies and a viable method of communications / dispatch for the department.
- TCOLE approves the application and helps the district start the process of creating a Police Department

What are the components of an ISD Police Department?

- An ISD police officer who is trained in prevention, intervention and education methods is present to help administrators make decisions on a daily basis.
- An ISD police officer present is dedicated to the school board and school officials.
- An ISD police officer present has jurisdiction over local operations of the district.⁵
- An ISD police officer would not be called away for a city or county emergency.
- ISD police chief would be required to report to the Superintendent and not the local police department.
- ISD police officers would follow the daily schedule developed by the school district and not the local police department.
- ISD police officers provide a direct link to local emergency services.

What are the components of an ISD Police Department?

- ISD police officers have the opportunity to build rapport with students, staff, and parents in school and at all school events.
- An ISD officer on campus in uniform is a deterrent to crime.
- ISD police officers are available for district training, mentoring, and promoting a ⁶ culture of good law enforcement.
- ISD police officers are available for all school functions.
- ISD police officers are able to provide attention to district cases and speed up the processing of those cases. The cases would not be lost or mixed in with cases from the city.

ISD Police Department Information

- There are approximately 300 school districts in Texas with their own police departments
- Each police department has a Chief that reports directly to the Superintendent
- Average pay for a school police officer is between \$57,000 and \$70,000 plus overtime.
- Pay is dependant on experience and position.
- On average there is 1 ISD police officer for every 1,000 students in the district.
- Each police department has an office area with evidence room.
- The office area is managed by a police clerk.

ISD Police Department Information

- The cost for a police vehicle is approximately \$45,000.
- Other costs for the district to consider are:
 - Office supplies
 - Cell phones for each officer
 - Vehicle insurance
 - Cost for travel and gas
 - Computers for officers
 - Radios
 - \$1000 application fee to start the police department
 - Liability Insurance for the police department
 - Radio communication agreement cost with Williamson County Sheriff's department

Liberty Hill ISD Police Department Information

- Chief of Police, Sergeant, 6 officers and an administrative assistant
 - Salary Total-\$530,000
- Contracted services such as cell phones and other subscriptions (includes using Williamson county radio system)
 - Total: \$103,000
- Supplies
 - Total: \$90,000
- Travel and Gas
 - Total \$23,000
- Vehicles
 - Total \$360,000

Region 13 School Districts with Police Departments

School District	Student Enrollment	Number of Campuses
Austin ISD	71,883	123
Bastrop ISD	11,947	14
Del Valle ISD	10,853	14
Gonzales ISD	2,613	5
Harper ISD	559	3
Lake Travis ISD	10,953	11
Liberty Hill ISD	6,824	11
Llano ISD	1,881	4
Manor ISD	9,029	15
Pflugerville ISD	25,348	33
Round Rock ISD	45,990	57

Things to consider

- Police officers are available for safety, not completing student discipline
- Overall cost to the district to create the police department
- Yearly cost to maintain the department as the district grows
- Hiring quality officers and competing with pay from city/county police departments?



School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

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SRO Program

- On campus presence to build relationships with students, staff, and parents
- SRO presence deters intruders and trespassers
- Immediate line of defense for intruders
- SROs are a liaison between the school district and community first responders
- SROs may lead safety presentations with students, staff, and parents
- SROs may advise administrators on emergency preparedness and crisis and incident management
- SROs are connected to the City Police Department

SRO Program

Pros

- SROs are on campus to immediately address an assailant.
- SROs are present to build relationships with students, staff, and parents.
- SROs know the campus layout and can guide other first responders when an incident occurs
- SROs are a liaison with the district and the community first responders
- SROs can advise campus and district administrators with emergency preparedness and crisis and incident management
- SROs are viewed as part of the staff
- Staff, students, and parents feel safe with SROs on campus

Cons

- Not all students or parents feel safe with SROs on campus
- SROs are used for discipline issues by administrators
- SRO programs are not cost effective school districts
- SROs cannot be on all campuses when there are more campuses than SROs
- SROs may be pulled away from campuses to help with emergencies in the city
- SROs can feel that they are in charge of all safety situations on campuses

Marshal Program

Marshal Program

- The Protection of Texas Children's Act
- TEC 37.0811 states
 - Appointment made by the Board of Trustees
 - Appropriate licensing and certification by TCOLE
 - Psychological exam and include 80 hours of instruction

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 - Psychological exam and include 80 hours of instruction
- Carry or possess a handgun on the physical premises of a school
- May carry on person UNLESS the primary duty of the school marshal involves regular, direct contact with students; in that case the school marshal must place the handgun in a locked and secured safe on the physical premises of the school and within the marshal's immediate reach.
- Marshal may only access a handgun only under circumstances that would justify deadly force for the safety or protection of others.

Marshal Program

Pros

- Serves as deterrent
- Relatively inexpensive
- Would have trained school marshal(s) on campus to access and use firearm
- Confidential as to who the school marshal is

Cons

- Most school marshal's can't carry on their body because regular, direct contact with students
- Very possible for the marshal to be away from their firearm
- Can interfere with law enforcement response to an active shooter scene
- Increased Individual liability and possible workers comp liability

Guardian Program

Guardian Program

- Program was created in 2009 by Jeff Sellers
- Under the authority of the federal Gun Free School Zones Act and the Texas Penal code, school districts can grant written permission for everyone, including designated employees, to carry firearms on campus.
- Most staff members who are chosen for the Guardian Program by the district are Administrators, Coaches, Support Staff, and Security Staff.
- As of August 2022, 280 school districts are participants in the Guardian Program.
- Majority of the districts are small rural districts that participate.

Guardian Program

- Guardian Program is not for every employee on campus.
- Chosen Guardians must have some experience with the use of firearms.
- Guardians must be mentally tough and participate in a psychological evaluation as part of the program.
- Staff chosen by the district have to be certified through the Texas DPS School Safety program.
- Staff members volunteer for the program.
- Staff members chosen for the program are kept anonymous.

Guardian Program Training

- Guardians must complete a certified course for a school safety certification from the Texas DPS office.
- This course is offered by several companies across the state of Texas.
- The course includes:
 - Texas License to Carry (6-10 hour course)
 - Texas DPS School Safety Class (10-20 hour course)
 - Range time to practice gun skills
 - Annual training for continued training
- Most Guardians receive a stipend from the district
- Districts provide funds for gun and ammunition purchase for Guardians

Guardian Program

Pros

- No wait time for law enforcement for Guardians to address an assailant.
- Guardian program has a low cost compared to hiring SROs.
- Multiple armed staff members in one area.
- The attacker would not be aware of the number of Guardians on the campus.
- The school board develops the Guardian program to fit the needs of the district.

Cons

- The perception of many people are that guns should not be on campus.
- What is the liability to the district if a Guardian shoots an innocent person?²³
- What is the cost of the liability insurance for the district for the program?
- Who is accountable if a Guardian's gun is stolen and used in a violent crime?

