

Book	Policy Manual
Section	700 Property
Title	School Police Officers
Code	_____
Status	Active
Adopted	12/16/2024
Last Revised	12/16/2024

Authority

The Board recognizes that it must preserve a safe school environment for students, staff, and school visitors. To that end, the Board authorizes school police officers who are properly certified in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and are approved by the Board to carry a firearm on their person while exercising their duties.

Delegation of Responsibility

The use of force is a serious responsibility. While there is no way to specify the exact amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any situation, each officer is expected to follow established procedures to make such decisions in a professional, impartial, and safe manner. The Superintendent or designee shall assume the responsibility for ensuring compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and this policy, related policies, and established procedures for school police officers in the Big Spring School District.

Guidelines

Procedural Guidelines for School Police Officers in the Big Spring School District will be developed by the administration and Officer in Charge to provide direction and requirements in the areas of:

1. Firearms and ammunition to be utilized by school police officers and the manner in which firearms are to be carried by officers.
2. Use of force guidelines and procedures.
3. Firearms storage, maintenance, issuance, and return procedures.
4. Firearms safety and retention procedures.
5. Training requirements and qualifications. Training requirements and qualifications will be completed on an annual level, through the supervision of the office in charge. Annual training requirements and qualification results will be maintained through the Superintendent's office, by the Officer in Charge and the Superintendent or his/her designee.
6. Records maintenance pertaining to training, qualification, and inventory.

7. Investigative procedures for discharge of a firearm.
8. Conditions affecting an officer's ability to carry a firearm.
9. Duties and responsibilities of school police officers and the Officer in Charge.

This policy shall be periodically reviewed, and any necessary changes adopted by the Board of School Directors.

The school district and its school police officers shall be covered by appropriate liability insurance at all times for all duties and obligations in this policy and related procedures.

In the event it is necessary, all such authorized school police officers shall be provided legal counsel through the District's law enforcement insurance policy, as set forth in such policy.

All costs and expenses necessary for the implementation of this policy and related procedures shall be borne solely by the School District, which shall include the required periodic training and qualification of school police officers.

It is the responsibility of the school police officer to conduct himself/herself with the highest standards of professionalism while on or off duty and to follow all established School District policies and procedures.