

**RELATIONS WITH SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS AND
LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES**

The School Board recognizes that a cooperative relationship with law enforcement authorities is desirable for the protection of students and staff and in maintaining a safe school environment. To that end, the Mt. Blue Regional School District and the Farmington Police Department have established a School Resource Officer (SRO) program. The School Board hereby officially designates the police officers assigned by the Farmington Police Department to serve as SROs as the law enforcement unit of the Mt. Blue Regional School District. The purpose of the SROs is to enforce local, state and federal laws and to assist in maintaining the physical security and safety of the School District.

In keeping with the Mt. Blue Regional School District's mission, the primary roles of the SROs are to:

- Provide support and assistance to the school administration and staff to maintain a safe and constructive learning environment;
- Enforce local, state and federal laws;
- Serve as a resource to administrators and teachers in planning and providing age-appropriate educational programs that foster respect for the law, an understanding of law enforcement, and safe and healthy behaviors;
- Serve as a resource to administrators and staff concerning law enforcement and child welfare issues;
- Assist individual students and their families in addressing issues related to law enforcement and helping students to have a meaningful school experience; and
- Serve as a liaison between the schools and the Farmington Police Department in addressing issues of concern to both departments.

School administrators and staff have the primary responsibility for maintaining proper order in the schools and for disciplining students for violations of Board policies and school rules. However, the Superintendent and administrators may seek the assistance of an SRO and/or the Farmington Police Department when they believe there is a threat to the welfare and safety of the schools, students and/or staff. The Superintendent and administrators shall also inform an SRO and/or the Farmington Police Department when they have reason to suspect that a student or staff member may have violated a state or federal criminal law.

The Superintendent and administrators retain the authority to deny law enforcement authorities access to students for non-school-related investigations.

Under this policy, SROs are considered to be school officials with legitimate educational interests in reviewing educational records in order to perform their professional responsibilities.

The School Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop administrative procedures, in consultation with the Farmington Police Department, to guide interactions between the schools, the SROs and the Farmington Police Department. Such procedures should safeguard the rights of students and parents and be consistent with School Board policies. Administrators may also develop appropriate building-level procedures regarding the role and activities of SROs in their schools. All administrative procedures must be consistent with School Board policies, as well as the SRO program agreement between the Mt. Blue Regional School District and the Farmington Police Department, and are subject to approval by the School Board.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99

Cross References:

KLGA-R - School Resource Officer/Law Enforcement Administrative Procedure
JRA – Student Education Records and Information

Adopted: March 27, 2012