



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 9.1

**Meeting Date:** May 19, 2011

**Subject:** Partnership between SCUSD and the Sacramento Police Department

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Accountability Office

**Recommendation:** None

**Background/Rationale:** Sacramento City Unified School District's *Strategic Plan 2010-2014: Putting Children First* makes three broad commitments to our community: Career- and College-Ready Students; Family and Community Engagement; and Organizational Transformation. The plan states under the third pillar (Organizational Transformation) that "A school district is an organization of people. To meet future challenges, our employees need to be innovative, resourceful, flexible and creative. They must value collaboration and work well in teams... On an operational level, the school district needs to break down barriers between the central office and school sites to create a more effective flow of services. Those services should include everything necessary for our schools to be clean, safe, welcoming and healthy." The partnership between local law enforcement and the Sacramento City Unified School District serves to support this pillar. The goal of the partnership is to project a consistent message, engage staff to be part of the greater safety team, and develop relationships with the central office and the sites to promote school and student safety and establish the best possible environment for academic and life success.

**Financial Considerations:**

**Documents Attached:** Executive Summary

<p><b>Estimated Time of Presentation:</b> 15 minutes</p> <p><b>Submitted by:</b> Lt. Katherine Lester, Sacramento Police Department</p> <p><b>Approved by:</b> Mary C. Shelton, Chief Accountability Officer</p>
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# Board of Education Executive Summary



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## **I. Partnership between SCUSD and the Sacramento Police Department:**

Sacramento City Unified School District's *Strategic Plan 2010-2014: Putting Children First* makes three broad commitments to our community: Career- and College-Ready Students; Family and Community Engagement; and Organizational Transformation. The plan states under the third pillar (Organizational Transformation) that "A school district is an organization of people. To meet future challenges, our employees need to be innovative, resourceful, flexible and creative. They must value collaboration and work well in teams... On an operational level, the school district needs to break down barriers between the central office and school sites to create a more effective flow of services. Those services should include everything necessary for our schools to be clean, safe, welcoming and healthy." The partnership between local law enforcement and the Sacramento City Unified School District serves to support this pillar. The goal of the partnership is to project a consistent message, engage staff to be part of the greater safety team, and develop relationships with the central office and the sites to promote school and student safety and establish the best possible environment for academic and life success. Without a firm commitment of resources and ideology to the creation of District wide safe learning environments, we cannot accomplish the strategic goal that students graduate as globally competitive lifelong learners, prepared to succeed in a career and higher education institution of their choice to secure gainful employment and contribute to society.

## **II. History:**

The Sacramento Police Department has worked in partnership with the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) since 2001, when a contract was established to place School Resource Officers in comprehensive high schools and middle schools. In September 2010, the Sacramento Police Department (SPD) provided the services of an SPD Lieutenant to SCUSD with the intent of improving student safety through the implementation of best practices, creative problem solving and building relationships within the District. The Lieutenant assigned also assumed supervisory responsibility of the School Resource Officer Unit and operational responsibility for an existing school security unit. Upon assignment to SCUSD, an audit encompassing components of school safety and security was initiated. The initial assessment included a broad-based review of the existing Security Plans, deployment of security and the effectiveness of security services in the District. Preliminary attention was focused on communication, internal security measures and external safety measures, and an evaluation of the relationship between local law enforcement and the District. This initial audit resulted in immediate improvements and longer-term projects which were outlined in the Comprehensive Mid-Year Report to Office of Accountability. The purpose of this report is to focus on the changes and improvements which have been made to school safety and SCUSD systems as well as organizational changes that are in support of the Strategic Plan.

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## III. Budget:

Contract for 12 School Resource Officers and one Sergeant	\$1,448,952
Sacramento Police Department Direct Financial Contributions	1,403,866
Sacramento Police Department Indirect Financial Contributions	860,491
SCUSD Adopted Security Services Budget (Including Fingerprinting)	103,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,817,109</b>

## IV. Goals, Objectives and Measures:

A system of safety and security, working in partnership with local law enforcement and applying the principles of Community Oriented Policing to schools and our communities, has been and will continue to be crucial to the success of a strong Safe Schools Program. The mission of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program is to:

- Fulfill the trifurcated mission of the SRO as a mentor/counselor, teacher and law enforcement officer
- Engage in evidence-based prevention programs
- Supplement existing prevention curricula on topics including bullying and violence prevention
- Develop relationships with students and staff
- Provide training and expertise to support site administrators
- Offer technical assistance in developing school safety plans and emergency readiness plans and protocols
- Be accessible and on-scene at the school when emergency situations arise
- Be involved as a partner in all programmatic elements of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative: violence prevention and intervention; substance abuse prevention programs; student behavioral, social and emotional supports; mental health services; early childhood social and emotional learning programs.
- Provide a positive role model for students and create a climate of safety for staff and students.

The important functions of the partnership between Safe Schools, District Security and law enforcement are:

- Provide safety and security for 48,000 students and over 5,000 staff members at 94 district sites spread over 75 square miles between the City and County of Sacramento
- Develop and implement Comprehensive Safe Schools Plans
- Develop relationships between the central office and sites
- Improve communication at all levels within the District regarding safety and security issues
- Policy development
- Establish, implement and manage the Rapid Assessment Team
- Grant procurement and management
- Provide technical expertise and support to sites and staff regarding safety issues
- Lead the Safety and Security Project which reports to the Project Oversight Committee

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- Work in partnership with the Student Hearing Office and Dropout Prevention Services
- Work in partnership with Youth Development Services
- Support the Attendance Intervention and Management (Project AIM) Truancy Center
- Provide comprehensive reporting and tracking of safety procedures and drills through the Rapid Responder Program
- Interface with Human Resources and Legal Services on internal and external legal issues

## V. Major Initiatives:

- Reorganization of Security Services
- Evaluation of existing alarm monitoring services
- Implementation of the CalGRIP grant
- Implementation of COPS-Save our Schools Grant
- Implementation of Readiness and Emergency Management in Schools Grant (REMS)
- Completion and implementation of recommendations for all sites based on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design evaluations
- Restructuring communications protocols
- Increasing revenues from facilities use and permitting services
- Decreasing fees from false alarm billing
- Increasing revenues through fee collection and parking citations
- Evaluation and Operational assessment for the Mandatory FCC Narrow Banding
- District-wide identification services
- Introduction of the Safe Routes to Schools Program in cooperation with Sac DOT and WALK Sacramento
- Vulnerability assessment and surveillance camera repair and installation
- Implementation of Gang Prevention and Intervention best practices
- Strengthening of regional partnerships and coordination of the Gang Violence Prevention and Intervention Project Advisory Council
- Formalization of protocols for registered sex offenders
- Improvement of security specific measures including Serna Security, district-wide key and code security, transportation security and end of employment protocols
- Continuous Campus Monitor training
- Implementation of ongoing training for site specific safety wardens
- Securing funding for existing structures including Project AIM and Gang Violence Prevention Specialists
- Evaluation of options for meeting the Districts Policing and Security needs
- Participation in District committees including the Opening of Schools Committee, Rapid Assessment Team and Local Education Plan Revision Committee

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## **VI. Results:**

The results of these initiatives were outlined in detail in the Comprehensive Mid-Year Report on Security and Safety which was provided to the Office of Accountability, Sacramento Police Department and the Office of the Superintendent. Many of the initiatives taken at the beginning of the year were completed and there are still a number that are in progress. The status of these initiatives has been reported routinely to the Safety and Security Project Team. The most success has so far been achieved in the areas of communication protocols, site security, alarm monitoring and reduction of false alarms, grant procurement, regional partnerships and the reorganization of the security services unit. Finally, implementation of environmental changes to our sites resulted in a significant reduction in property crimes.

## **VII. Lessons Learned/Next Steps:**

- ❖ Provide district-wide training to site safety wardens on Critical Issues in Campus Safety and Comprehensive Safe School Planning (CSSP)
- ❖ Complete site CSSP Assessments over the summer break for all sites
- ❖ Manage current grant funding streams to provide for lighting, cameras and target hardening at identified sites
- ❖ Reallocate any remaining grant funding to target hardening and maintenance at vulnerable sites
- ❖ Partner with local private schools and independent charters to improve regional security efforts
- ❖ Continue to collect data and complete a Final Report to the Office of Accountability on the results of the measures taken and changes made to security and safety processes
- ❖ Further evaluate the District's policing and security needs
- ❖ Continue the mission of targeted intervention and diversion practices employed by School Resource Officers while working with local Community Based Organizations and referrals of at-risk students to evidence based programs
- ❖ Implement and/or continue to support programs crucial to the success and safety of SCUSD students, including Safe Routes to School, Project SAVE, the Magnet Criminal Justice Academies, Project Towards No Drugs, Aggression Replacement Therapy and Functional Family Therapy