

Naperville 203 believes the foundation of all learning is a safe, respectful, and supportive school environment. The purpose of our behavior policy is to encourage positive, constructive, and responsible student behavior and to create an environment conducive to learning. All rules and guidelines within this policy are built on the following core principles; the consideration for the rights and well-being of others, cooperation with all members of the school community, and respect for oneself and others.

When a student engages in behavior that disrupts the learning environment or is contrary to school rules, staff work to guide and support the student in understanding how his/her actions impact their learning or the learning of others. In addition, staff engage the student in a conversation regarding how to meet the expectation in the future.

Creating an environment that promotes learning for all is a top priority of Naperville 203. We recognize the importance of addressing any behaviors that impede the learning of our students. To support our efforts, the District collaborates with our local police departments to provide School Resource Officers (SRO) who engage in mentoring, teaching and building relationships with our students, staff, and families as a means to develop a positive learning environment.

Frequently Asked Questions Related to School Resource Officers

What is the role of the School Resource Officer (SRO) and how does it benefit our schools?

School Resource Officers (SRO) are members of the police department who collaborate with our schools in the development of a safe, respectful, and supportive learning environment. These officers serve as a community resource to the students, staff and families by providing easy access to the full range of police and community resources.

Our SROs provide our schools with information on best practice for adapting our school campuses to improve safety, respond to intruders, and solicit police response in an emergency. SROs also serve as a consultant to the school in matters of law enforcement and juvenile procedures.

The SRO is a valuable link providing law related education through presentations to classes and organizations throughout the school, assisting the Deans and Assistant Principals with investigations related to student conduct, and being available to provide an array of other related supports or services to staff and students. As active members of our school communities, SROs develop positive relationships with our students, regularly advocate for students, and continually problem solve with students, staff and parents.

Is the SRO an employee of the District?

No, the SROs are employees of either the Naperville or Lisle Police Department. The purpose of the SRO program is to establish positive working relationships among police, school administration, service agencies, parents and students to maintain a safe and secure learning environment.

What type of training does an SRO receive?

All SROs complete a 40 hour course provided by the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). The course provides attendees with an understanding of the role of the SRO, skills for establishing partnerships within the schools, and covers a range of topics such as diversity, understanding the teen brain, and school law. For more information on the training topics and activities, please visit the NASRO [website](#).

In addition, SROs are required to complete a 40 hour course of training certifying them as Juvenile Specialist Officers. The training includes a variety of topics such as investigative techniques, adolescents and the media, communicating with adolescents and parents, and delinquent minors. For more information on the training, please visit the North East Multi-Regional Training [website](#). Additionally, SRO's participate in a variety of professional development opportunities based on interests and recommendations from school and/or police supervisors.

How may an SRO become involved with my student?

SROs are active members of our school community. They are present in our secondary schools on a regular basis, interacting with students in hallways, lunchrooms and extra-curricular activities. They provide prevention programs in our classrooms on topics such as digital footprint, sexting and cyberbullying education, and provide guest appearances in our health and driver's education classes. They are often sought by our students and parents who have questions around issues such as eviction notifications, runaways, threats, child safety concerns, traffic issues, and neighborhood disputes. When a student believes they have been a victim (i.e. theft, assault, identity theft, bullying, etc.), it is not uncommon for students to go directly to an SRO for guidance and assistance.

In addition to the pro-active relationship building that occurs between the SROs and students, if a student is involved in an incident where a criminal or potential criminal act has occurred, the building administrator may seek the resources or guidance of a School Resource Officer. A building administrator (i.e. Dean, Assistant Principal, Principal) may involve an SRO in matters such as Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) concerns, threats to student, staff or building safety as well as drug use or distribution and assaults.

Who is responsible for discipline within our schools?

School administrators (i.e. Dean, Assistant Principal, Principal) are responsible for the discipline of students within our schools. A student may be subject to disciplinary action for any conduct that is reasonably related to school or school activities and adversely affects the school environment or the safety of any student, staff or school property. When the behavior involves a criminal or potential criminal act which impacts the school environment, the SRO will be consulted and may actively assist in the investigation. This investigation may result in legal action, which is separate from the school discipline administered by school administrators.

When may an SRO be involved with a disciplinary investigation of my student?

The safety of our school community is, and always will be, the District's number one priority. School administrators (i.e. Deans, Assistant Principals, Principals) are obligated to investigate any incident of which they have knowledge that might jeopardize the safety of a student, staff member or school property. As a consistent available resource, the School Resource Officer is available to assist the school administrators with these investigations and student interviews.

In addition to the primary focus of maintaining a safe learning environment in all of our schools, the District has established behavior rules and guidelines in Board Policy 7:190 to encourage positive, constructive and responsible student behavior to promote an environment conducive to learning. These rules set forth the guiding principles for promoting expected behaviors and provide examples of prohibited student conduct which would interfere with the maintenance of a positive, productive student learning environment. Depending on the behavior of concern, school administrators involved with investigating possible violations of these school rules may seek the assistance of an SRO in such investigations, including the interview of students.

Similarly, the District is obligated to investigate any incidents of bullying, intimidation and harassment, including sexual harassment and cyberbullying, as outlined in Board Policy 7.180. Any activity during a school-sponsored program or through the transmission of information from any electronic device which causes a disruption to the educational process or interferes with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the District is subject to investigation by school administrators, and possibly the School Resource Officer.

When can parents expect to be notified that their student has been interviewed by an SRO?

Naperville 203 appreciates the role of the parent as partners in helping to promote positive, constructive and responsible student behavior. As a District, we are committed to this partnership and every effort is made to contact parents as soon as the building administrator

has an accurate understanding of the incident and enough information to determine what, if any, consequences are appropriate.

In accordance with Board Policy 7.150 a parent will be contacted prior to an SRO or law enforcement representative questioning their child anytime the event of concern occurred outside of school and has no impact on another student, staff or school property.

When SROs are investigating a school related incident or any incident which may have potential consequences for the safety of the students or employees, students may be interviewed by the SRO without parent permission. As with all investigations, parents are contacted when the events of the incident are confirmed and sufficient information is available to determine what, if any, consequences are appropriate.