

**SCHOOL SECURITY/SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**

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The Kittatinny Regional School District is entrusted with protecting school staff members, students and visitors in the school buildings of the school district. In order to enhance the safety of all building occupants and to further protect all building occupants, the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools may approve and provide a written authorization to employ a School Resource Officer. The School Resource Officer will be a former law enforcement officer who retired in good standing and will be an employee of the Board of Education. The Board may allow for the School Resource Officer who has a valid permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4, to possess a handgun in school building or on school grounds during his/her workday provided the employee meets the exception to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5(b) outlined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(1).

The Board of Education will annually evaluate the position of School Resource Officer and the specific approval of the School Resource Officer carrying a firearm as part of their daily responsibilities. In order to be considered for and approved as an armed School Resource Officer, the School Resource Officer must provide a written application to the Superintendent of Schools requesting permission to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds during his/her workday. This School Resource Officer must provide the Superintendent of Schools with documentation supporting compliance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(1), including but not limited to, a copy of the identification card issued by the Superintendent of the State Police permitting the retired officer to carry a handgun in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(1)(4).

The Superintendent of Schools will review the School Resource Officer's request and confirm with the Chief of Police all documentation, and if there is no local law enforcement agency, with the school district's New Jersey State Police liaison. The Superintendent of Schools will also submit the request to the school district's insurance company and the School Resource Officer appointment will be dependent upon the receipt of written confirmation from the school district's insurance company that sufficient insurance coverage will be provided to the school district and the school employees should any liability arise from the proposed School Resource Officer's handgun.

Any application by a School Resource Officer to carry a handgun on school property must be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. Any authorization will only be for the time period the New Jersey State Police issued identification card is valid and under no circumstances will the authorization exceed one year from the issuance of the identification card. The Board of Education may approve the Superintendent's recommendation after review of the documentation, and upon such approval, the Superintendent of Schools will provide written authorization to the School Resource Officer along with any conditions on the authority to carry a handgun on school property. No School Resource Officer will be authorized to carry a handgun beyond the hours of the individual School Resource Officer's workday, or the boundaries of the school property.

A School Resource Officer approved by the Board of Education as a School Resource Officer authorized to carry a handgun on school property must comply with all applicable New Jersey laws, including but not limited to: N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4; N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5; N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6; and N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4.

**Legal References:**N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

General mandatory powers and duties

Adopted/Revised: 9/11/14; 9/15/16