

WEBER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		POLICY AND PROCEDURES	
SUBJECT: School Resource Program		CHAPTER/SECTION NO.: 31.9	
EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/7/03		REVIEW DATE:	
AMENDS/SUPERSEDES: See attached sheet		APPROVED: <u>** See Master File</u> Sheriff	
STANDARD NUMBER: 44.2.4,44.2.5			

31.9 Policy

- 31.9.1 The office will furnish deputies to conduct continuing liaison with schools within the county acting as resources with respect to delinquency prevention, giving guidance on ethical issues in a classroom setting, and explaining the law enforcement role in society.
- 31.9.2 Deputies (SRO's) selected for the school resource program must be able to further Sheriff's Office school resource policy and:
 - A. Use the program as a forum through which students, parents, faculty, and law enforcement officers can become acquainted and, as a result, earn mutual respect.
 - B. Demonstrate to parents and faculty that the office has a genuine interest in the youth of the community.
- 31.9.3 The primary assignment of a school resource officer will be to county high schools and junior high schools, (grades 9, 10, 11, & 12).
- 31.9.4 School resource officers will wear full uniforms as specified in WCSO policy and drive marked Sheriff's Office vehicles while working school shifts.

- 31.9.5 Plainclothes assignments on the day of special school events may be authorized by the Youth Services Section Commander on a limited basis. School logo shirts approved by the Sheriff may be worn during events such as pep rally's and assemblies but **NOT** for athletic competition events. The SRO will be otherwise equipped according to WCSO policy governing plainclothes assignments.
- 31.9.6 School resource officers are not to act as school principals, vice principals or school counselors. Resource officers may council and/or mentor students in law enforcement matters and provide resources when appropriate. Resource officers should build positive relationships of trust with students, but also take appropriate action against a student involved in criminal activity. Resource officers should work directly with school administrators in solving problems with misbehaving students. Resource officers can use discretion in disciplining students using criminal statutes or the safe school policy of the district. The decision concerning what charge should be filed against a student will be made by the officer and County Attorney's office. This decision should not be made by school administrators.
- 31.9.7 School resource officers are usually considered part of the administrative team in their respective schools. Resource officers are encouraged to work closely with these administrators, but the officers are police officers first and foremost. Rules of search and seizure, Miranda, etcetera must be followed according to federal and state laws and county policy. Even though school administrators may have more leniency in these matters, SROs do not.

- 31.9.8 When school is not in session, resource officers may attend training, work at their schools preparing reports or conducting follow-up investigations; prepare for future school events or complete work or assignments related to their respective schools. Resource officers will also be assigned other Sheriff's Office duties during summer break.
- 31.9.9 School resource officers should also seek out and develop needed, but nonexistent, community programs for juveniles.
- A. Any such program proposals should be presented to the Youth Services Section Commander who will make an assessment and, if appropriate, forward it to the Sheriff for discussion.
 - B. Any off-duty participation by office personnel in community recreational programs for juveniles will be on a voluntary basis.