

*OHIO SCHOOL
RESOURCE
OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION*

OHIO SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION

2022 TOWN HALL

JUNE 28TH



OSROA

- OSROA was established as we know it today in 2000.
- 501c3 non-profit organization
- 800 SROs plus members.
- Provides training to SROs, L/E Administration, School Staff; including teachers, bus driver and others, Emergency Management groups, and more.
- OSROA is an approved and provides the required HB 318 SRO Certification – 40-hour course

SRO SELECTION

- First, never force anyone to be in a school!
- Never use the SRO position as a place to hide someone or get them off the road.
- SROs are only for those who want to be around young people.
- SROs need to have the ability to interact well with children and adolescents.
- SROs need to be available 24/7.
- SROs need to have compassion, patient, communication skills and flexibility.
- SROs need to have the ability to mediate.
- SROs need to be independent workers & permitted to make decisions without supervision.
- SROs need to be part of the school body. Not just the cop in the building.
- SROs need to enjoy their job or you will know it.

PURPOSE OF THE SRO

- The purpose of the school resource officer (SRO) is to be one carefully selected, specifically trained, and properly equipped as full-time law enforcement officer with sworn law enforcement authority, trained in school-based law enforcement and crisis response, assigned by the employing law enforcement agency to work in the school using community-oriented policing concepts.
- Schools may have their own police and operate jointly or independent.
- Function daily within the agreed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Operate with a heart of compassion, thoughtfulness, listening skills and age appropriateness responses.

SRO V JUST A UNIFORM

- How important is it ... “a cop is a cop in the building” – This is not good practice.
- Required within one year of appointment as an SRO – More than law.
- An SRO is much more than just a uniform in the building.
- SROs are trained to be in schools around young people.
- SROs will handle mental health issues (assessments), crisis, threats, disorders, difficult parents etc...they will be in the classroom and the lunchroom, they will be on the playground and patrolling the school grounds, they will be a mentor, parent and provider, emergency operations, community liaison, and trainer. They will direct traffic and help with school & student projects. They will be a coach and a fan. They may even become adoptive parents.

OSROA SRO BASIC

- History & Overview of SROs
- Ethics, MOUs & Roles
- Law Related Education – Being in the classroom
- SRO as the First Responder – De-escalation
- School Admin & SROs
- Interviewing & Counseling – Interviewing Juveniles
- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports
- Mental Health
- Suicide Prevention
- Legal
- Social Emotional Efforts Diversity & Inclusion
- IEPs & 504s
- RX & Street Drugs
- OSSC – Assessments - Emergency Plans
- School Safety Issues – Bullying
- Autism Awareness
- Lessons Learned
- Handle with Care TtT

ROLES OF THE SRO

- Role Model – Create relationships
- Mentor/Counselor – Listen, talk out & help
- Educator – Teacher
- Law Enforcement – Protector
- Resource – Assist students & families
- Coach – Life & other activities
- Provider – Many SROs provide clothing, food etc...
- Emergency Mgt – Expertise in plans and responses
- Special Events – Board Mtgs, Sports etc...



DIFFERENCES

- Ohio HB 318 – defines an SRO as a certified Ohio Peace Officer. The responsibilities of an SRO to include providing a safe learning environment, fostering positive relationships, developing problem resolution strategies, assisting schools in adopting, implementing and amending comprehensive emergency management plans (including required consultation with local law enforcement and first responders), and providing resources to school staff. Most significantly related to SROs, HB 318 requires 40 hours of specialized training for any SRO appointed on or after November 2, 2018.
- SRO v SSO – Armed & Unarmed
- SRO v Security – Armed & Unarmed
- SRO v Untrained – School L/E
- The differences in these professions is the critical component of training!
- The differences is involvement in ER plans and more!
- The differences is the educational partnerships with teachers and students.
- SROs fit the Triad Concept



SRO TRAINING

- Social Media & Investigations
- Bus Safety TtT & Bus Safety for Drivers & Aides
- K-9 Therapy
- De-escalation
- SRO Supervision
- Tactical Mindset
- Gender Based Violence
- Operation Street Smart – Drug Education
- Handle with Care
- Diversity
- Lessons Learned
- School Administration & SROs
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Strategies for Effective SRO
- CPTED
- Extracurricular Activates - 2023
- More ...

KEEPING THE SRO

- The use of SROs is growing!
- Yes, some schools removed SROs but are bringing them back.
- The right officer/deputy is the best source of safety & security.
- July 2022 SRO Basic is already over 90 registrants as new SROs for the 2022-23 school year.
- October 2022 class is also growing.

QUESTIONS

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