

School Resource Officers

What Families Need to Know to Work Together with SROs for Student Success



A Building Strong Brains initiative through the Department of Children's Services



tnstep

Special Education Support for Tennessee Families

Today's Presenters:

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**Serve families of
children and youth
and young adults
with disabilities**

**Focus on
Special Education
Rights**

MISSION: POSSIBLE



**Offer accurate,
timely, and relevant
information
and training**

**Ensure a brighter
future for children
and youth in
Tennessee**

Family Assistance

Services are FREE
for Tennessee families



Who do we help?

Tennessee families and caregivers with children and youth, birth to 26, with a diagnosed or suspected disability or special healthcare or mental health needs.

TNSTEP believes parents and caregivers are a child's best advocates.

Family Assistance

Services are FREE
for Tennessee families



How do we help?

- ★ Navigating special education laws
- ★ IEP or 504 Plan review & assistance
- ★ Virtual and in-person workshops & training
- ★ Referrals to other agencies
- ★ Life after high school planning
- ★ Training video & webinars
- ★ Collaboration & communication
- ★ Special education updates

Session Overview

- How Past Experiences (with Law Enforcement) Influence Present Perceptions & Reactions
- School Resource Officers: A National Conversation
- The Prevalence of SROs in Schools
- The Role of School Resource Officers (SROs)
- Tennessee: School Safety Specialists
- School Resource Officers' (SROs) Impact
- Building Positive Relationships with SROs
- Wrap Up & Questions

**How Past
Experiences
Influence Present
Perceptions and
Reactions**





School Resource Officers: A National Conversation



The Prevalence of SROs in Schools



SCHOOL

RESOURCE OFFICERS

Basic Fact about SROs

Federal Definition of an SRO

A School Resource Officer (SRO), by federal definition, is a career law enforcement officer with sworn authority who is deployed in community-oriented policing and assigned to work in collaboration with schools and community-based organizations to fulfill specific duties. (1)

Main Roles of an SRO

Three (3) main roles of an SRO emerge, which the National Association of School Resource Officers summarizes as:

- **Educator** (i.e., guest lecturer)
- **Informal counselor/mentor** and
- **Law Enforcement officer** ⁽²⁾

Appropriate Duties of an SRO

- Educating students in crime and illegal drug use prevention and safety;
- Developing or expanding community justice initiatives for students; and
- Training students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime and illegal drug use awareness. (3)

Tennessee's Definition of an SRO

A School Resource Officer (SRO), 49-6-4202. Part definitions. —

As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

(6) “School resource officer” means a law enforcement officer, as defined under § 39-11-106, who is in compliance with all laws, rules and regulations of the peace officers’ standards and training commission and who has been assigned to a school in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between the chief of the appropriate law enforcement agency and the LEA;

[Acts 1981, ch. 368, § 2; 1983, ch. 397, § 1; T.C.A., § 49-9-402; Acts 1988, ch. 727, § 1; 1994, ch. 636, § 13; 2007, ch. 341, § 1.]

Tennessee's Employment Standards for SROs

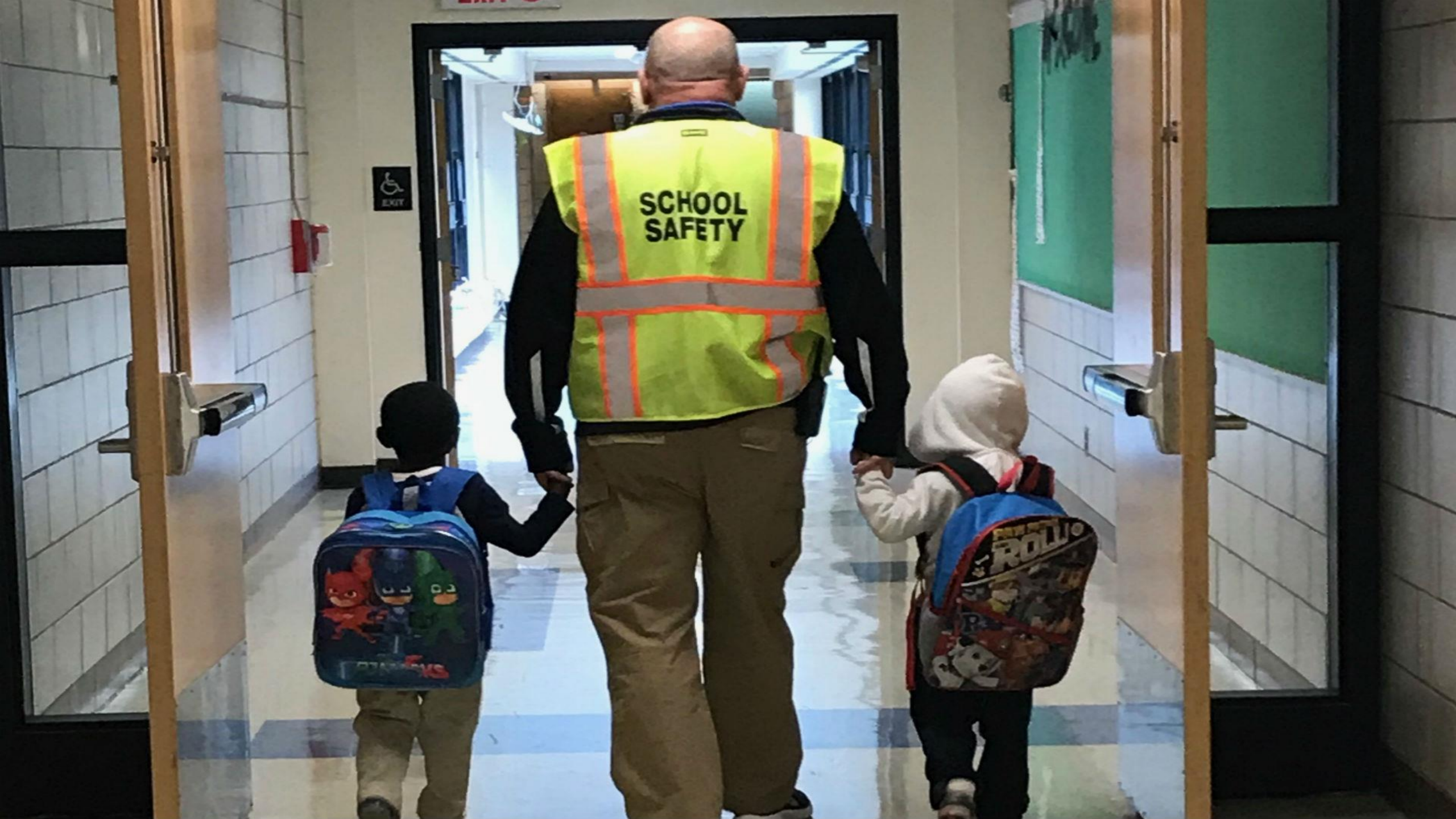
49-6-4217. Employment standards for school resource officers. —

(a) Training courses for school resource officers shall be designed specifically for school policing and shall be administered by an entity or organization approved by the peace officers' standards and training (POST) commission.

(b) School resource officers shall participate in forty (40) hours of basic training in school policing within twelve (12) months of assignment to a school. Every year thereafter they shall participate in a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of training specific to school policing that has been approved by the POST commission.

(c) Within thirty (30) days of the beginning of the school term, each LEA shall publish and deliver to the commissioner an annual report of the employment standards adopted by the LEA. The report shall include a description of the LEA's methods of enforcing the employment standards.

[Acts 2006, ch. 797, § 1; 2007, ch. 99, § 1; 2007, ch. 341, § 2.]



ROLE OF A SCHOOL SAFETY SPECIALIST

Take the lead/participate in the following responsibilities and activities on an ongoing basis:

- Coordinate the review, editing, and updating of Emergency Operations Plans for their district and/or school building each year [T.C.A. §49-6-(801-814)]
- Involve and network with appropriate stakeholders in the development of district/school level Emergency Operations Plans through the formation of a district-level safety team
- Act as a resource for other individuals in the district on issues related to school discipline, safety, security, and bullying prevention
- Provide professional development for district faculty and staff on school violence, crime prevention, bullying, and other issues that prevent the maintenance of a safe school environment
- Participate in 6 hours of Advanced-Level training each year

School Safety Assessment





“The responsibility for student success lies with the adult”



SROs Can Have a Positive Impact for Students with Disabilities

Child Find

Identify | Locate | Evaluate

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS



SCHOOL BULLYING









SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



Building Positive Relationships with SROs

Child Considerations – Getting to Know the Child

- **All About Me**
 - Favorite things to do/Not my favorite
 - Favorite foods/Foods I do not like
 - Communication
 - Independent skills
 - Social skills



Tool: One-Page Profiles

Parents and caregivers can help SROs get to know their child better

A **One-Page Profile** captures all the important information about a young person on a single sheet of paper under three (3) simple headings:

1. What people appreciate about me;
2. What's important to me; and
3. How best to support me.

<http://helensandersonassociates.co.uk/person-centred-practice/one-page-profiles/one-page-profile-templates/>

- Templates of One-Page Profiles

<http://helensandersonassociates.co.uk/person-centred-practice/one-page-profiles/one-page-profiles-education/primary-school/>

- Sample of a child in Primary School

Child Considerations – Sharing Your Child’s Triggers



FACE-TO-FACE INTERACTIONS





It's a Wrap!

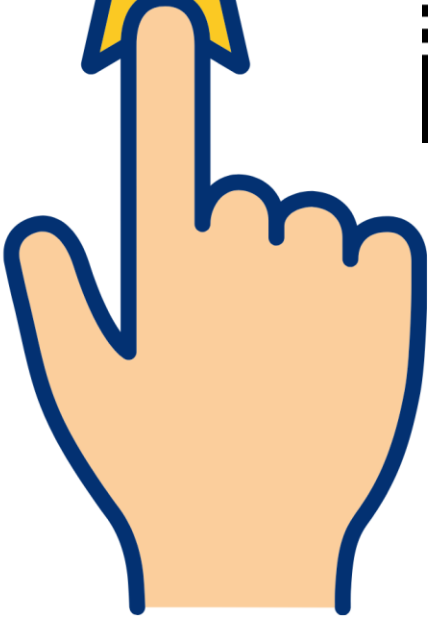
- Questions?
- Comments?
- Take-aways?
 - One thing you will use from this training



Evaluation of today's training



How did we do?



TNSTEP staff is available to provide support, information, and training to Tennessee families and students



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Let's Connect



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