

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

School Marshal

The Board of Trustees shall appoint Lake County Sheriff School Resource Officer to be certified as a school marshal to serve at St. Ignatius Schools. "School marshal" means a person who is appointed by the board of trustees and employed or retained by a school district to protect the health and safety of persons and to maintain order on public school property.

Eligibility

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, shall establish an application and procedure for soliciting employees interested in serving as a school marshal. To be eligible to serve as a school marshal, an applicant must:

1. be currently employed by St. Ignatius Schools; and/or
2. hold the appropriate license and certification by the Montana Law Enforcement Academy
3. not be employed by the school in a position that requires, as a primary duty of that position, regular, direct contact with students.

Drafting Note: Adopt subsection (3) of the applicant eligibility criteria only if the Board seeks to limit the pool of candidates for school marshal to employees whose position does not involve regular, direct contact with students.

Identity of School Marshal and Confidentiality

The identity of applicants interested in serving as a school marshal, and the identity of the school marshal appointed by the Board of Trustees, shall remain confidential at all times.

Reimbursement

The Board of Trustees will reimburse any amount not covered by the county level for SRO officers to serve as school marshal to participate in the training program for licensing and certification required by the Montana Law Enforcement Academy.

School Marshal Regulations

The school marshal is subject to and shall abide by the following regulations of St. Ignatius School District:

1. A school marshal may act only as necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that threatens serious bodily injury or death of students, faculty, or school visitors on school premises.
2. A school marshal may make arrests and exercise all authority given peace officers under the Montana Code of Criminal Procedure as is necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that threatens serious bodily injury or death of students, faculty, or school visitors on school premises.

3. A school marshal may not issue traffic citations.
4. A school marshal may carry a concealed handgun on his or her person.
5. If the primary duty of a school marshal involves regular, direct contact with students, the school marshal may not carry a handgun on his or her person, but may possess a handgun on the physical premises of the school in a locked and secured safe within the marshal's immediate reach when conducting his or her primary duty at the school.
6. A school marshal may access the handgun only under circumstances that would justify the use of deadly force in accordance with state law.
7. A school marshal may only use frangible ammunition designed to disintegrate on impact for maximum safety to others.

Legal References: House Bill 572
§ 45-8-361, MCA

Montana school marshal program
Possession or allowing possession of
weapon in school building -- exceptions --
penalties -- seizure and forfeiture or return
authorized – definitions (*Cited by House Bill
572*)

Cross References:

Policy History:
Adopted on: 8-15-23