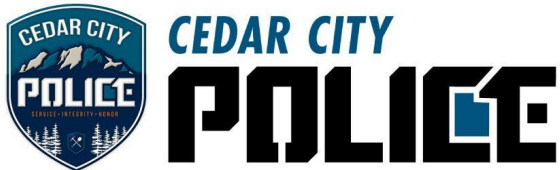




Iron County School District
2077 W. Royal Hunte Dr.
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CEDAR CITY
POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

Monday, March 6, 2023

ICSD AND CCPD ISSUE JOINT RELEASE FOLLOWING MEETING

On March 6, district and school administrators and three Board of Education members met with Cedar City Police administrators to discuss ways to better ensure the increased security and safety of students in Iron County School District.

While the meeting was instigated by the incidents that occurred on Feb. 27 and 28 at Canyon View High School, the focus was on identifying policies or procedures that could increase school safety and better communication with parents. During the meeting, both sides agreed law enforcement and schools walk a fine line in determining how much information can be shared during an ongoing investigation. School officials agreed they must rely on the expertise of police when dealing with these types of investigations. Law enforcement officials agreed that coordination is imperative, but cannot impede the important work they are doing.

“The reality is that our schools are safer places today than they were a week ago because of the work our local law enforcement did to swiftly identify and take action against a gang presence in our community,” said Superintendent Dr. Lance Hatch. “We are pleased to support and assist those efforts as they continually support and assist us with school safety and security.”

Those in attendance also concurred there were areas where improvements could be made on both sides. Steps that will be taken moving forward, include:

- Better two-way communication between School Resource Officers (SROs) and school and district administrators.

— More —

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- Clearer and earlier communication with parents during real and drilled security procedures.
- Education of parents on different types of security measures in schools and expectations for them, including the different types of lockdowns and when they are used.
- A review of safety and security policies at the district level with recommendations made to the school board for additions to official policy which would govern all schools.
- A review of coordination agreements between SROs and school administrators.
- Fencing at elementary schools to solidify a single point of entry. The fences will be built using capital funding.
- Installation of keyless entry on all school doors. At this point, the equipment has been ordered, but supply chain issues have delayed installation significantly.

Additionally, other future improvements may include:

- The addition of a district safety and security specialist to coordinate drills, protocols, access control in schools, etc.
- Installation of secure vestibules in all schools to facilitate a single point of entry. The cost of renovations in at least 11 schools would necessitate the expense being placed on an upcoming bond.
- A community event where parents are educated about the formation of gangs and steps they can take to protect their children.

“Our relationship with Iron County School District has never been stronger,” said Cedar City Police Chief Darin Adams. “We are committed to continuing that strong relationship.”

— SCHOOL DISTRICT —
B U I L T I R O N ### S T R O N G

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