

Response to Questions on the FY 2006 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor Bulova

Question: Please describe the deployment of School Resource Officers (SROs). Specifically, what flexibility exists to respond to the needs of the various schools?

Response: School Resource Officers are assigned to every high school and middle school in the County. There is a total of 46 SROs serving the Fairfax County Public Schools. Each regular FCPS high school is assigned one SRO and the majority of middle schools have their own SRO. Frost and Irving middle schools, Rachel Carson and Franklin middle schools, Cooper and Longfellow middle schools, and Liberty Middle and Mountain View Alternative schools share an SRO as these schools are near one another and have typically had fewer calls for service. The SRO deployment plan for the shared schools ensures daily coverage at each school (i.e., split half-day in each school). Hayfield, Lake Braddock and Robinson secondary schools each have two SROs assigned – one to cover the high school component and one to cover the middle school component of the school.

SROs are centrally supervised by commanders and supervisors from the Patrol Bureau's Youth Services Division in addition to day-to-day supervision and command at the district station level. The supervision system is well-coordinated and very functional in meeting the needs of the school system and the School Board. SROs and all of their associated supervisors and commanders participate in information-sharing systems and attend regular meetings to ensure efforts are well coordinated and focused. Therefore, as a matter of routine business practices, SROs are very flexible to respond to the needs of the school system.