

Response to Questions on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: What are the school system costs associated with school security, specifically the FCPS employees that provide patrol—not FCPD?

Response: Fairfax County Public Schools have provided the following information:

Personnel Costs:

The cost for the 28 uniformed security patrol staff is approximately \$1.4 million.

Vehicle Costs:

The security section of OSS utilizes 14 vehicles for patrol (12 SUV's, 1 pickup truck and 1 sedan). The total purchase cost for these vehicles is approximately \$277,000. These costs are absorbed through several years, as vehicles are replaced.

Average maintenance costs for vehicles with less than 100,000 miles is \$1,806 per vehicle (3)

Average maintenance costs for vehicles with 100,000 to 110,000 miles is \$4,680 per vehicle (4)

Average maintenance costs for vehicles with more than 110,000 miles is \$6,225 (7)
The average annual fuel costs are \$3,400 per vehicle, or \$47,600 for all 14 vehicles.

Purpose:

School security staff is composed of two general classifications, school based security, which is a part of the school staff, and those assigned to the office of safety and security (OSS). Additionally, School Resource Officers (SRO) are Fairfax County Police Officers assigned to a specific middle or high school.

The purposes of the security personnel assigned to OSS are numerous and involve many duties. These officers patrol assigned schools to detect and deter fire, theft, burglary, vandalism and other unauthorized activities and conditions which could endanger students, personnel and property of FCPS. They also perform security inspections of schools that include manual checks of all exterior doors and windows and an inspection of the interior. They assist administrators with applying the school security plan and other security related matters and promptly report suspicious activities or persons found on FCPS property. The officers respond to intrusion and fire alarm activations and assist public safety with access to appropriate portions of FCPS buildings. During the year of 2007, OSS officers responded to more than 3,100 intrusion alarms. Most of these do not involve calling the police department. They assist custodians with the alarm system, such as by-passing alarms and reporting alarm malfunctions to the appropriate office for repair. Officers routinely provide minor maintenance repairs after hours and request the response of maintenance staff for serious issues. They also provide coverage for the FCPS proprietary alarm monitoring station.

OSS security officers provide many services for special events and meetings. Examples include all school board meetings, many discipline hearings and traffic/parking control for large FCPS functions.

During the calendar year of 2007, OSS security officers performed more than 8,100 requests for service. These are often routine actions that are a component of the OSS service commitment. Examples of these activities include boiler checks, maintenance issues, requests for extra patrols, assistance during large scale events, control of media at a school (e.g., Westfield HS reference the VA Tech incident) and assistance to staff.

Number of trucks:

The security section of OSS utilizes fourteen vehicles for patrol. These include 12 SUV's, 1 pickup truck and 1 sedan

Staffing:

The security section of OSS has 6 supervisors and 22 officers, divided into 4 squads, consisting of 6 to 7 persons per squad.

Hours:

The security section of OSS works 24/7, 365 days per year. The 12 hour shifts are from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m.