

# Superintendent Report

## Safety and Security Update (MLO)

April 23, 2024



# Douglas County School District Priorities

## Safe, Positive Culture and Climate

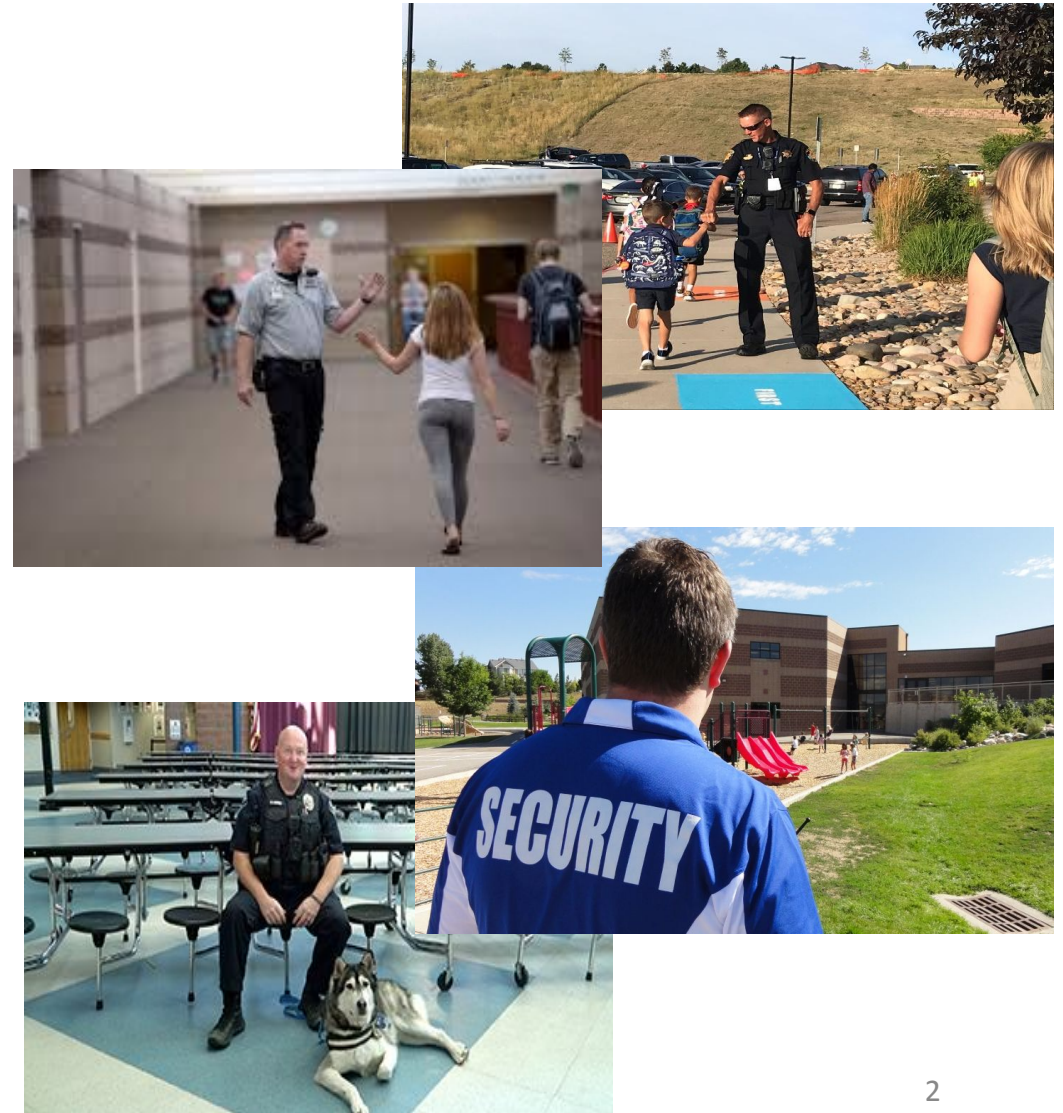
A purposeful focus on creating a caring, safe, fun, supportive, and positive learning and working environment for all students, district employees, parents, and community is manifest throughout the district.

There is clear evidence and a common understanding of the shared belief that all students can succeed when given a safe and caring learning environment. To that end:

- A focused level of teamwork and professional development is ongoing among district employees, community, and law enforcement agencies to ensure the physical safety of students, district employees and visitors.

## 2023 Mill Levy Override

- Additional School Resource Officer Support
  - Across all jurisdictions
  - Fill in gaps and increase coverage
- Campus Security Specialists (*description*)
  - District-run elementary schools
- Annual Security Equipment Allowance



# Douglas County Community Support

Per the ballot language, \$6M of the MLO was earmarked for enhancing safety and security hiring additional personnel such as School Resource Officers (SRO) and Campus Security Specialists (CSS) in our schools as well as continuously upgrading and replacing equipment.

During the second semester of this school year (2023-2024):

- over half of our neighborhood elementary schools have added Campus Security Specialists.
- our law enforcement partners have added 7 additional SROs and more are in the hiring process.
- we added a Security Manager and Patrol Officer to align with our regional support structure.



# Douglas County

## Law Enforcement and Community Partnerships



The Douglas County School District wants to express our sincere gratitude to the Douglas County Commissioners who voted unanimously to contribute additional funds to maximize the SROs we are able to hire with the passage of 5A.

We are so thankful for our law enforcement partnerships, including the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, and for our community's dedication to the safety of our schools, students, and staff.

# School Resource Officers

- Each neighborhood high school and middle school have a designated SRO in their building.
- Through our partnership with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Castle Rock, Lone Tree and Parker police departments, officers and deputies are adding another layer of security at our elementary schools via multiple daily visits.
- The primary responsibility during these officer's shifts is to visit and patrol our schools. Additionally, they may assist with a law enforcement issue at our schools.
- SROs build positive relationships with youth and stay current with the various topics and trends impacting students today, while standing ready to respond to any threat.
- SROs participate in extensive requirements, in-depth training and wealth of resources in order to ensure we have the best possible protection for our children.
  - Our School Resource Officers attend training sponsored by the National Association of School Resource Officers and the Colorado Association of School Resource Officers, locally and nationally, to stay on the cutting edge of this field.
  - DCSD also provides training focused on security protocols, trauma-informed practices, supporting students with disabilities, and threat assessment.



# Elementary Campus Security Specialists

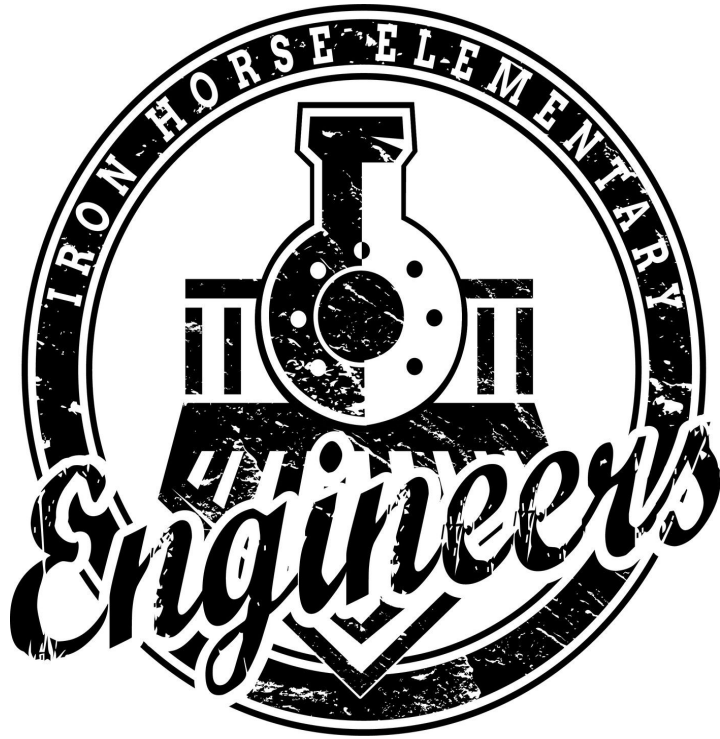
*The CSS position in our elementary schools has already proven effective in the areas of prevention, hardening, and response in keeping students and staff safe.*

## Responsibilities of the Campus Security Specialist

- Promotes and provides proactive security services and a safe and secure environment at schools and other facilities.
- Provides a positive role model for students and develops and promotes positive relationships with students. Develops and promotes good community relations among various community members and school clientele.
- Monitor and supervise students' activities at assigned locations in the building and/or on the grounds and enforce parking (lot) regulations.
- Assist law enforcement and District Security with enforcement of school District policies on and mitigation strategies to promote a safe school environment.
- Watch for disturbances, unauthorized visitors, or criminal activity. Assess danger and call for assistance if necessary; intervenes to halt or prevent disturbances, or other incidents.
- Monitor visitor access during school hours to ensure only authorized persons enter to maintain a safe and secure campus.
- Campus Security Specialists attend comprehensive training focused on security protocols, trauma-informed practices, supporting students with disabilities, threat assessment, Crisis Prevention and Intervention, and CPR.



# Elementary Campus Security Specialist Impacts



Principal Munoz



Principal Warr



Principal Stairs

# Enhanced District Security Support

- Added a DCSD Security Manager to align with regional support structure
- Added a DCSD Patrol Officer to align with regional support structure
- Provided all necessary equipment and technology for Campus Security Specialists
- Upgraded equipment and enhanced security systems





# Looking Ahead to 2024-2025

## Questions

