

# BETHEL PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL  
POLICE OFFICERS

ADOPTED: AUGUST 7, 2018

REVISED:

860. EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL POLICE OFFICERS	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for students, staff, and school visitors while in school, at school functions, traveling to and from school and on school property at any time. It is the Board’s intent to ensure protection of its real and personal property.</p>
2. Authority 24 PA Code Sec. 13-1301-C et seq	<p>The Board is authorized by law to hire school police officers and request that certain powers be conferred upon such police officers by the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. To that end, the Board authorizes school police officers who are properly certified in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and are approved by the Board to carry a firearm on their person while exercising their duties.</p> <p>These school police officers shall be exempt from Board Policies 317.1, 417.1, and 517.1 which ban school employees from possessing weapons while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, or at any school event held away from the school.</p>
3. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The Board authorizes the applications for the granting of the following powers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The authority to enforce good order in school buildings and on school buses, including but not limited to, vehicles used under transportation agreements with third party contractors to transport students, on school grounds, at bus stops, and at school functions.</li><li>2. The authority to exercise the same powers exercised under authority of law or ordinance by the municipal police of the legal entities comprising the district including but not limited to:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The issuance of summary citations.</li><li>b. The power to exercise arrest and citation power for violations of law.</li><li>c. The authority to exercise arrest and citation power for violations of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code and the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.</li></ol></li></ol>

<p>53 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 2161 et seq 24 P.S. Sec. 13-1305-C</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. To present those arrested before a district justice juvenile probation officer, mental health facility, or other court of record and proffer charges against the arrested individual under the law of the Commonwealth.</li><li>4. To exercise all powers conferred by the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas on district property within their jurisdiction.</li><li>5. To possess firearms while on duty providing and conditioned upon the school police officer successfully completing a training course in the use and handling of firearms when they have obtained the requisite Act 120 Pennsylvania Municipal Police Education and Training, annual municipal police training updates, annual firearms qualification, and any other training mandated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for continued certification as a school police officer in this Commonwealth.</li><li>6. The authority to use reasonable force in accordance with Title 18 Pennsylvania Crimes Code Section 508, Use of force in law enforcement, Section 509, Use of force by persons with special responsibility for the care, discipline or safety of others, and Section 505, Use of force in self-protection.</li></ol> <p>Procedural guidelines for school police officers in the Bethel Park School District shall be contained in the Bethel Park School District Police Department Policy and Procedures Manual.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 13-1301-C et seq, 13-1305-C</p>
---	---