

CITY OF HIGH POINT

AGENDA ITEM



TITLE: Interlocal Agreement Between the City of High Point and the Guilford County Board of Education for the Provision of School Resource Officers	
FROM: C. H. Cheeks, III, Interim Chief of Police	MEETING DATE: June 17, 2024
PUBLIC HEARING: n/a	ADVERTISED DATE/BY: n/a
ATTACHMENTS: Resolution Contract	

PURPOSE: To request approval to execute an Interlocal Agreement between the City of High Point and the Guilford County Board of Education for the provision of School Resource Officers for the 2024-25 school year.

BACKGROUND: The Guilford County Board of Education contracts with the City of High Point for SRO coverage at the four high schools and four middle schools which are located within High Point. The proposed contract for 8 officers and 1 supervisor is being requested to cover school year 2024/2025.

BUDGET IMPACT: The funding for salary and equipment expenses was considered/calculated into our proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION REQUESTED: The Police Department is requesting that City Council approve this request to contract with the Guilford County Board of Education for eight School Resource Officers and 1 Supervisor.



**RESOLUTION RATIFYING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT WITH
GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE
OFFICER PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Board of Education (“the Board”) desires assistance of the City of High Point (“City”) in providing School Safety Resource Officers (“SROs) for additional police services to create safe and crime free educational campuses; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to maintain the School Safety Resource Officer Program (“SRO Program”) jointly operated by the City and the Board in select public schools; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Board believe that the continued operation of the SRO Program is vital in protecting and safeguarding these campuses and seeks to memorialize the continued operation through a written contract; and

WHEREAS, under this contract, the City agrees to provide eight (8) officers and one (1) supervisor for a period of one year to the SRO Program and the Board shall reimburse the City for \$710,855.00 for the salaries and equipment of the officers assigned to the SRO Program for a period beginning on the date of contract signature through June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Board shall continue to work together to ensure the successful protection of those educational campuses; and

WHEREAS, the City would like to enter into a contract with the Board for providing SROs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the High Point City Council that the attached contract between the City and the Board for the SRO Program in the amount of \$710,855.00 is hereby ratified as required by N.C.G.S. 160A-461, and the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the attached contract on behalf of the City, and that this resolution ratifying the interlocal cooperation between the City and the Board is hereby spread upon the minutes of the High Point City Council.

Adopted this the ____ day of _____, 2024.

Cyril Jefferson, Mayor

ATTEST

Sandra Keeney, City Clerk

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

CITY OF HIGH POINT

CONTRACT – SRO Program

THIS CONTRACT, entered into this 1st day of August, 2024, by and between the CITY OF HIGH POINT, hereinafter referred to as “City”; and the GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, hereinafter referred to as “Board”;

WITNESSETH:

THAT WHEREAS, the Board desires special law enforcement services to be rendered by the City of HIGH POINT, namely the providing of School Safety Resource Officers (SROs) and

WHEREAS, the City of HIGH POINT has agreed to provide such special law enforcement services to the Board upon certain terms and conditions provided hereinafter; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein and pursuant to the authority of the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina, and the acts and things done and performed, and to be done and performed by the parties hereto, one with the other, the parties mutually agree as follows:

SECTION 1. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY

1.01 The City shall provide eight (8) sworn police officers to be assigned to specific middle/high schools as School Safety Resource Officers (SROs) by the Chief of Police. The City shall also provide one (1) supervisor for the SRO unit. The selection of the individual officers shall be at the discretion of the Chief of Police. During the term of this agreement, the primary duty and responsibility of the SROs shall be to the schools. The SROs are expected to be on duty at school on regular school days and available for special assignments during the weeks when school is not in session. SRO assignments may be adjusted based on needs identified by the Chief of Police or the Police Department’s SRO Supervising Officer upon consultation with the Board’s Administrator for School Safety. The normal duty hours for SROs at their school(s) are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Changes to these hours can be made by agreement with the Program

Administrators for School Safety, the principal of the school, and the Chief of Police or the Police Department's SRO Supervising Officer.

- 1.02 It is understood that, in the event of Police Department emergencies, the School Safety Resource Officers may be required, for short periods of time, to attend such emergencies in lieu of their duties under this Contract. In the event that such a need arises, the Chief of Police or his designee may notify the Board's Program Administrator for School Safety as soon as practical. For purposes of this Contract, "emergency" is defined as an event that involves an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury or a threat to the wellbeing and safety of the citizens of High Point which requires immediate action. The emergency assignment shall be completed in a timely manner so as not to create unnecessary jeopardy to school safety.
- 1.03 It is understood that the School Safety Resource Officers are employees of the High Point Police Department and will be subject to the vacation and holiday schedule of the department. In the event an SRO is absent from work, the SRO shall notify both their police department supervisor and the principal of the school to which the SRO is assigned. It is understood and agreed that time spent by SROs attending court for juvenile and/or criminal cases arising from or out of their assignment as an SRO shall be considered as hours worked under this Contract.
- 1.04 The City shall ensure that the exercise of any law enforcement powers by the SROs is in compliance with the authority granted by law and that they receive basic and in-service training necessary to properly maintain their law enforcement certification.
- 1.05 SROs shall coordinate and communicate with the principal or his or her designee as necessary to effectively perform their duties.

- 1.06 The City agrees to provide each SRO with the necessary law enforcement supplies and forms required in the performance of their duties.

SECTION 2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

- 2.01 The Superintendent of the Board has designated the Board's Program Administrator for School Safety as the person to work with, coordinate activities of, and otherwise communicate with the School Safety Resource Coordinator and the City on behalf of the Board.
- 2.02 For the fiscal year covered by this agreement (FY 2024-2025), the Board shall pay to the City the amount needed to pay 75% of the actual salaries and benefits for the eight SROs and one supervisor plus \$2,000.00 per officer and supervisor for equipment, vehicle, and other expenses as set out in the attached cost sheet incorporated herein by reference.
- 2.03 The Board shall also reimburse the City for the amount paid for SROs and the SRO supervisor to attend the annual SRO Training Conference.
- 2.04 The Board shall make biannual (twice a year) payments to the City to cover the costs set out in 2.02 and 2.03 above. Invoices shall be sent to the Board in January and June and Board shall have thirty (30) days from the invoice date to make payment. Payments to the City should be sent to the City of High Point Finance Department.
- 2.06 The Board through its principals or their designees shall provide and maintain, to the extent resources are available, office space, furniture and/or telephone to SROs through the duration of this contract.

SECTION 3. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

- 3.01 The general outline of the Program shall be as provided in the previously executed agreement entitled "School Resource Officer Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)," which is incorporated herein by reference.
- 3.02 School officials shall allow SROs to inspect and copy any public records maintained by the school including student directory information such as yearbooks. However, law enforcement officials may not inspect and/or copy confidential student education records except in emergency situations. If some information in a student's cumulative record is needed in an emergency situation to protect the health and/or safety of the student or other individuals, school officials may disclose to the SRO the information that is needed to respond to the emergency situation based on the seriousness of the threat to someone's health and/or safety. This disclosure is based upon the immediacy of the need and the impact of the delay in obtaining said information from other sources. If confidential student records information is needed, but no emergency situation exists, the information may be released only upon a signed notarized consent of a parent or guardian, the issuance of a search warrant or a subpoena to produce the records.

SECTION 4. TERM OF AGREEMENT

- 4.01 This Agreement shall be made for a one-year period beginning on the date of signature, and ending on June 30, 2025, with the intent to renew the Agreement, contingent upon the availability of the necessary funding through the appropriation of state and/or local funding or designated grants for SROs, for successive terms beginning on August 1.
- 4.02 Upon expiration, this Agreement shall continue from year to year without re-execution subject to the amount budgeted by the Board each year and the right of either party to terminate as set out below.

SECTION 5. TERMINATION

5.01 Either party may terminate this Agreement early by serving written notice upon the other party at least thirty (30) days in advance of such termination.

SECTION 6. INVALID PROVISION

6.01 Should any part of this Agreement be declared invalid by a court of law, such decision shall not affect the validity of any remaining portion, which shall remain in full force and effect as if the invalid portion was never a part of this Agreement when it was executed.

6.02 Should the severance of any part of this Agreement materially affect any other rights or obligations of the parties hereunder, the parties hereto will negotiate in good faith to amend this Agreement in a manner satisfactory to the parties. Failing agreement on such amendment, either party may, by notice in writing, terminate this Agreement forthwith, subject to the provisions of this Agreement relating to termination.

SECTION 7. ASSIGNMENT

7.01 Neither party to this Agreement shall, directly or indirectly, assign or propose to assign this Agreement or any of its rights or obligations in whole or in part to any third party without the prior written consent of the other party.

SECTION 8. NO WAIVER

8.01 The failure of either party to enforce at any time any of the provisions, rights or elections shall not in any way affect the validity of this Agreement. The failure to exercise by either part any of its rights herein or any of its elections under the terms and conditions herein contained shall not preclude or prejudice it from exercising the same or any other right it may have under this Agreement, irrespective of any previous action or proceeding taken by it hereunder.

SECTION 9. COMPLETE AGREEMENT

9.01 This Agreement is the complete Agreement of the parties; may be amended or modified only in writing; and supersedes, cancels and terminates any and all prior agreements or understandings of the parties, whether written or oral, concerning the specific subject matter hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have duly executed this Agreement as of the day, month, and year first above written.

ATTEST:

CITY OF HIGH POINT

BY: _____
Sandra Keeney, City Clerk

Tasha Logan Ford, City Manager

This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

Bobby Fitzjohn, City Finance Office

Approved as to Legality and Form:

Brian T. Beasley
Police Attorney

Approved as to Content:

C. H. Cheeks, III
Interim Chief of Police, City of High Point

ATTEST:

GUILFORD COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Clerk to the Board

By:

This instrument has been preaudited in the
Manner required by the School Budget and
Fiscal Control Act.

Approved as to Legality and Form:

Guilford County Board of Education
Chief Financial Officer

Attorney for Guilford County
Board of Education

**City of High Point
High Point Police Department
School Resource Officer Contract**

COST SHEET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

75% of Salary and Benefits for 8 Police Officers	\$	587,256.00
75% of Salary and Benefits for 1 Supervisor	\$	95,792.00
\$2,000 per Officer and Supervisor for Equipment:	\$	18,000.00
Cost of SRO Training Conference:	\$	9,807.00
 TOTAL	 \$	 710,855.00