**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BY AND BETWEEN**

and

Effective July 1, 2015

1. **Joint Statement of Concern**
	1. Parties

The following Law Enforcement Authority or Authorities enter into and

agree to adhere to the policies and procedures contained in this

Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter “Memorandum”):

The following School Entity or Entities enter into and agree to adhere to

the policies and procedures contained in this Memorandum:

* 1. The purpose of this Memorandum is to establish procedures to be

followed when certain specific incidents - described in Section II below -

occur on school property, at any school sponsored activity or on any

public conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school

sponsored activity, including but not limited to a school bus.

* 1. It is further the purpose of this Memorandum to foster a relationship of

cooperation and mutual support between the parties hereto as they work

together to maintain the physical security and safety of the School Entity.

Thus, the School Entity may disclose personally identifiable information

from an educational record of a student to the Law Enforcement Authority

if a health or safety emergency exists and knowledge of that information is

necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

In determining whether a health or safety emergency exists, the School

Entity may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to

a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the

School Entity determines that there is an articulable and significant threat

to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, it may disclose

information from education records to the Law Enforcement Authority,

if knowledge of that information is necessary for the Law Enforcement

Authority to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

The School Entity must record the articulable and significant threat to the

health or safety of a student or other individuals so that it can demonstrate -

to parents, students and the Family Policy Compliance Office - what

circumstances led it to determine that a health or safety emergency existed

and why the disclosure was justified.

* 1. Priorities of the Law Enforcement Authority
		1. Investigate all incidents reported to have occurred on school property, at any school sponsored activity or on any public conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school sponsored activity, including but not limited to a school bus. The investigation of all reported incidents shall involve as little disruption of the school environment as is practicable.
		2. Identify those responsible for the commission of the reported

incident and, where appropriate, apprehend and prosecute those

individuals. Identification and apprehension procedures shall involve

as little disruption of the school environment as is practicable.

* + 1. Assist the School Entity in the prevention of the incidents described

in Section II of this document.

* 1. Priorities of the School Entity
		1. Create safe learning environments, which support each student’s

well-being and opportunities to reach their full potential while

balancing and protecting the rights of all students.

* + 1. Establish and maintain cooperative relationships with the Law

Enforcement Authority in the reporting and resolution of all

incidents described in Section II of this document.

* + 1. Foster partnerships with the Law Enforcement Authority for the

education and guidance of students to create a school climate and

knowledge base conducive to learning and personal growth.

* + 1. Provide the Law Enforcement Authority with all relevant

information and required assistance in the event of a reported

incident.

* 1. Legal Authority
		1. The parties to this Memorandum enter into this agreement in

accordance with the provisions of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.

30, No. 14), as amended, 24 P.S. §§13-1301-A et seq. (hereinafter

“Safe Schools Act”), requiring all school entities to develop a

memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement which

sets forth procedures to be followed when an incident involving an

act of violence or possession of a weapon, as further specified in

Section II of this document, by any person occurs on school

property. Law enforcement protocols shall be developed in

cooperation with local law enforcement and the Pennsylvania State

Police. 24 P.S. §13-1303-A(c).

* + 1. In so recognizing this legal authority, the parties acknowledge their

respective duties pursuant to the Safe Schools Act and hereby agree

to support and cooperate with one another in carrying out their joint

 and several responsibilities thereunder.

**II. Notification of Incidents to Law Enforcement**

A. Mandatory Notification

The School Entity shall immediately report by the most expeditious means possible to the Law Enforcement Authority the occurrence of any of the following incidents occurring on school property, at any school sponsored activity or on any public conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school sponsored activity, including but not limited to a school bus:

 1. The following offenses under 18 Pa. C.S. (relating to crimes and

 offenses):

 a. Section 908 (relating to prohibited offensive

 weapons).

 b. Section 912 (relating to possession of weapon on

 school property).

 i. As used in this Memorandum “weapon” shall include, but not be limited to, any

 knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool,

 nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, metal

 knuckles, billy club, blackjack, grenade,

 incendiary device and any other tool,

 instrument or implement capable of

 inflicting serious bodily injury.

ii. This reporting requirement does not apply to

a weapon which is: (a) used, as part of a school-

approved program, by an individual who is

participating in the program; or (b) an unloaded

weapon possessed by an individual while

traversing school property for the purpose of

obtaining access to public or private lands used

for lawful hunting if the entry on school premises

is authorized by school authorities.

 c. Chapter 25 (relating to criminal homicide).

 d. Section 2701 (relating to simple assault to include

 domestic violence)

 e. Section 2702 (relating to aggravated assault).

 f. Section 2706 (relating to terroristic threats).

 g. Section 2709.1 (relating to stalking).

 h. Section 2901 (relating to kidnapping).

 i. Section 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint).

 j. Section 3121 (relating to rape).

 k. Section 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual a

 assault).

 l. Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate

 sexual intercourse).

 m. Section 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault).

 n. Section 3124.2 (relating to institutional sexual

 assault).

 o. Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent

 assault).

 p. Section 3126 (relating to indecent assault).

 q. Section 3127 (relating to indecent exposure).

 r. Section 3301 (relating to arson and related

 offenses).

 s. Section 3307 (relating to institutional vandalism),

 when the penalty is a felony of the third degree.

 t. Section 3502 (relating to burglary).

 u. Section 3503(a) and (b)(1)(v) (relating to

 criminal trespass).

 v. Section 3701 (relating to robbery).

 w. Section 6110.1 (relating to possession of firearm

 by minor).

 2. The possession, use or sale of a controlled substance or drug

 paraphernalia as defined in “The Controlled Substance, Drug,

 Device and Cosmetic Act."

 a. As used in this Memorandum, “controlled substance”

 shall include the possession, use or sale of controlled

 substances as defined in the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.

 233, No. 64) known as “The Controlled Substance, Drug,

 Device and Cosmetic Act” (hereinafter “Drug Act”)

 including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, crack

 cocaine, heroin, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, steroids and

 other substances commonly known as “designer drugs.”

 See 35 P.S. §§ 780-101 et seq.

 b. Included in this reporting provision shall be the

 possession, use or sale of drug paraphernalia, as defined

 in the Drug Act, including, but not limited to,

 hypodermic syringes, needles and, depending on the

 circumstances, rolling papers, as well as all other

 equipment or materials utilized for the purpose of

 ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing controlled

 substances into the body. See 35 P.S. § 780-102.

 3. Attempts, solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of the

 offenses listed in subsections (1) and (2).

 4. An offense for which registration is required under 42 Pa. C.S.

 § 9795.1 (relating to registration).

 5. Purchase, consumption, possession or transportation of liquor

 or malt or brewed beverages by a person under 21 years of age.

 See 18 Pa. C.S. § 6308(a).

B. Discretionary Notification

The School Entity may report to the Law Enforcement Authority the

occurrence of any of the following incidents occurring on school property,

at any school sponsored activity or on any public conveyance providing

transportation to or from a school or school sponsored activity, including

but not limited to a school bus:

 1. The following offenses under 18 Pa. C.S (relating to crimes and

 offenses):

 a. Section 2705 (relating to recklessly endangering another

 person).

 b. Section 3307 (relating to institutional vandalism), when

 the penalty is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

 c. Section 3503(b)(1)(i), (ii), (iii) and (iv), (b.1) and (b.2)

 (relating to criminal trespass).

 d. Chapter 39 (relating to theft and related offenses)

 e. Section 5502 (relating to failure of disorderly persons to

 disperse upon official order).

 f. Section 5503 (relating to disorderly conduct).

 g. Section 6305 (relating to sale of tobacco).

 h. Section 6306.1 (relating to use of tobacco in schools

 prohibited).

 2. Attempt, solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses

 listed in subsection (1).

C. Notification of the Law Enforcement Authority when incident involves

 children with disabilities

1. In accordance with 34 CFR 300.535 nothing will prohibit the

school entity from reporting a crime committed by a child with

a disability to the Law Enforcement Authority or will prevent

State law enforcement and judicial authorities from exercising

their responsibilities with regard to the application of Federal

and State law to crimes committed by a child with a disability.

2. The school entity, when reporting a crime committed by a child

 with a disability, must ensure that copies of the special education

 and disciplinary records of the child are transmitted for

 consideration by the appropriate authorities to the Law

 Enforcement Authority to whom the incident was reported.

3. The school entity, when reporting an incident under this section,

 may transmit copies of the child’s special education and

 disciplinary records only to the extent that the transmission is

 permitted by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act

 (hereinafter “FERPA”).

4. If someone other than the school entity has reported an incident,

 which results in the student’s arrest, the school entity may as

 allowable under FERPA release the student’s records.

 D. Upon notification of the incident to the Law Enforcement Authority,

 the School Entity shall provide as much of the following information

 as is available at the time of notification. In no event shall the

 gathering of information unnecessarily delay notification:

 1. Whether the incident is in-progress or has concluded.

 2. Nature of the incident.

 3. Exact location of the incident.

 4. Number of persons involved in the incident.

 5. Names and ages of the individuals involved.

 6. Weapons, if any, involved in the incident.

7. Whether the weapons, if any, have been secured and, if so, the c custodian of the weapons.

8. Injuries involved.

9. Whether EMS or the Fire Department were notified.

10. Identity of the school contact person.

11. Identity of the witnesses to the incident, if any.

12. All other such information as is known to the school authority

which can be deemed relevant to the incident under

 investigation.

E. Additionally, in anticipation of the need for the Law Enforcement

Authority to respond to incidents described herein, the School Entity

shall furnish the Law Enforcement Authority with the following

information:

a. Blueprints or floor plans of the school buildings;

b. Aerial photo, map or layout of the school campus,

 adjacent properties and surrounding streets or roads;

c. Location(s) of predetermined or prospective command

 posts;

d. Current teacher/employee roster;

e. Current student roster;

f. Current school yearbook;

g. School fire-alarm shutoff location and procedures;

h. School sprinkler system shutoff location and procedures;

i. Gas/utility line layouts and shutoff valve locations; and

j. Cable/satellite television shutoff location and procedures.

**III. Law Enforcement Authority Response**

A. Depending on the totality of the circumstances, initial response by the

 Law Enforcement Authority shall include:

 1. For incidents in progress:

 a. Meet with contact person and locate scene of incident.

 b. Stabilize incident.

 c. Provide/arrange for emergency medical treatment, if

 necessary.

 d. Control the scene of the incident

 i. Secure any physical evidence at the scene.

 ii. Identify involved persons and witnesses.

 e. Conduct investigation.

 f. Exchange information.

 g. Confer with school officials to determine the extent of

 law enforcement involvement required by the situation.

 2. Incidents not in progress:

 a. Meet with contact person.

 b. Recover any physical evidence.

 c. Conduct investigation.

 d. Exchange information.

 e. Confer with school officials to determine the extent of l law enforcement involvement required by the situation.

 3. Incidents involving delayed reporting

 a. In the event that a reportable incident occurs on school

 property, at a school sponsored event, or on any public

 conveyance providing transportation to or from a school

 or school sponsored activity, including but not limited to

 a school bus, either after the conclusion of the school day

 or after the conclusion of the event at which the incident

 occurred, the School Entity shall report the incident to

 the Law Enforcement Authority immediately upon its

 notification.

 b. If such incident is initially reported to the School Entity,

 the School Entity shall proceed as outlined in paragraphs

 II (A – C) above.

 c. If the incident is initially reported to the Law

 Enforcement Authority, Law Enforcement Authority

 shall proceed directly with its investigation and shall

 immediately notify the School Entity of the incident, with

 all pertinent and reportable information, by the most

 expeditious means possible as if the reporting was not

 delayed.

 B. Custody of Actors

 1. Students identified as actors in reported incidents may

be taken into custody at the discretion of the investigating

law enforcement officer if:

 a. the student has been placed under arrest;

 b. the student is being placed under investigative

detention;

 c. the student is being taken into custody for the protection

 of the student; or

 d. the student’s parent or guardian consents to the release

of the student to law enforcement custody.

 2. The investigating law enforcement officer shall take all

 appropriate steps to protect the legal and constitutional rights of

 those students being taken into custody.

**IV. Assistance of School Entities**

A. In Loco Parentis

 1. Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Vice Principals and Principals

 in public schools have the right to exercise the same authority

 as a parent, guardian or person in parental relation to such pupil

 concerning conduct and behavior over the pupils attending a

 school during the time they are in attendance, including the

 time required in going to and from their homes.

 2. School authorities’ ability to stand in loco parentis over

 children does not extend to matters beyond conduct and

 discipline during school, school activities, or on any public

 conveyance providing transportation to or from school or

 school sponsored activity.

 B. Notification of Parent or Guardian

 1. Parents or guardians of children who are either the alleged

 perpetrators of, or who are the victims of, acts of violence,

 possession of weapons, sexual assault, or the possession, use

 or sale of a controlled substance or the underage possession

 of alcohol or intoxication from alcohol in violation of school

 rules while on school property, during school hours or while

 engaged in school activities, shall be notified of the

 involvement by School authorities, and they shall be informed

 if a referral was made to the Law Enforcement Authority. In

 cooperation with the Law Enforcement Authority and at the

 direction of the Law Enforcement Authority, the School

 authorities will delay the notification of parents or guardians

 in special circumstances so as to avoid impairing a police

 investigation.

 2. The School Entity shall document attempts made to reach the

 parents or guardians of all victims and suspects of incidents

 reportable to law enforcement authorities pursuant to the terms

 of this agreement.

 C. Scope of School Entity’s Involvement

 1. General Principles

 a. Once the Law Enforcement Authority assumes

 responsibility for an investigation, the legal conduct

 of interviews, interrogations, searches, seizures of

 property, and arrests are within the purview of the

 Law Enforcement Authority. The School Entity shall

 defer to the Law Enforcement Authority on matters of

 criminal and juvenile law procedure.

 b. The Law Enforcement Authority shall conduct its

 responsibilities in accordance with the laws of the

 United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

 and the established policies and procedures of the Law

 Enforcement Authority. The School District shall

 cooperate with the Law Enforcement Authority, and

 shall not impair the investigation of the Law

 Enforcement Authority.

 2. Arrests

 a. In the event that the Law Enforcement Authority

 determines that it is necessary to arrest a student at

 school, the Principal or Assistant Principal (or his/her

 designee) shall be notified.

 b. The Law Enforcement Authority shall be responsible

 for notifying the parent or legal guardian of the student

 who is arrested. Whenever possible, the notification

 shall take place in the presence of the Principal or

 Assistant Principal (or his/her designee) before the

 student is removed from the school.

 c. The Law Enforcement Authority may, in the exercise

 of its discretion, request that the parent or legal guardian

 bring the student to the police station after school hours.

 3. Interviews of Students by the Law Enforcement Authority

a. It shall be the general policy of the Law Enforcement

Authority to attempt to avoid conducting interviews of students who are either witnesses or victims on school property when school is in session whenever practical.

b. The Law Enforcement Authority is not required by the law

of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to seek parental

permission to interview a victim or witness of a suspected

crime. The Law Enforcement Authority shall follow department policy, protocol and/or procedures as well as the current law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when interviewing a victim or witness to ensure the protection of the victim's or witness' legal rights.

c. It shall be the general policy of the School Entity to notify

 promptly the parent or guardian of a victim or witness when

 the Law Enforcement Authority conducts an interview on

 school property during school hours unless the case under

 investigations has been declared one of "special

 circumstances" as described below.

i. a case under investigation may be declared to be

one of "special circumstances" by the Law

Enforcement Authority in consultation with the

School Entity. The Law Enforcement Authority

shall clearly communicate that a particular case

under investigation is declared to be one of "special circumstances."

ii. When necessary, a "special circumstances” case

shall require a positive affirmation of the designation

by the District Attorney of County, or

the Acting Assistant in charge of the case under

investigation in the event that the District Attorney

is unavailable.

iii. When a case under investigation is declared to be

one of "special circumstances, the School Entity

shall delay the prompt notification of the parent or

guardian of the student who is a victim or witness

until such time as the Law Enforcement Authority

determines that it is appropriate to provide such

notification.

d. The School Entity shall not prevent or delay an interview

of a victim or witness even if the interview is conducted on

school property. Notification shall not be interpreted to mean

that the School Entity may prevent or delay an interview of a

victim or witness pending parental notification or a

determination as to whether notification is required.

4. Conflicts of Interest

a. The parties to this Memorandum recognize that in the event

that a School Entity employee, contractor, or other person

acting on behalf of the School Entity is the subject of an

investigation, a conflict of interest may exist between the

School Entity and the adult suspect.

b. Where the possibility of such a conflict exists, neither the

 individual that is the subject of the investigation nor any

 person acting as his/her subordinate or direct supervisor shall

 be present during Law Enforcement Authority’s interviews of

 student co-suspects, victims or witnesses by the Law

 Enforcement Authority.

c. Neither the individual who is the subject of the investigation,

 nor his/her subordinate(s) and/or direct supervisor(s) shall be

 informed of the contents of the statements made by student

 co-suspects, victims or witnesses, except at the discretion of

 the Law Enforcement Authority or as otherwise required by law.

D. Reporting Requirements and Exchange of Information

 1. The Law Enforcement Authority shall be governed by the

 following reporting and information exchange guidelines:

 a. Criminal History Record Information Act, 18 Pa. C.S.

 §§ 9101 et seq.

 b. The prohibition against disclosures, specified in

 paragraph IV(C)(4) of this Memorandum.

 2. When sharing information and evidence necessary for the Law

 Enforcement Authority to complete their investigation, the

 School Entity shall:

 a. Comply with FERPA, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and its

 implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1 et seq.,

 and 22 Pa. Code §§12.31-12.33 and any amendments

 thereto.

 b. Comply with the requirements of the Public School Code

 of 1949, 24 P.S. §§ 13-1303-A and 13-1317.2 and any

 amendments thereto.

 c. Complete reports as required by the Public School Code

 of 1949, 24 P.S. § 13-1303-A and any amendments

 thereto.

3. All school entities are required submit an annual report, which will

 include violence statistics and reports to the Department of

 Education’s Office of Safe Schools. This annual report must include

 all new incidents described in Section II (A) above. Prior to

submitting the required annual report, each chief school administrator and each police department having jurisdiction

over school property of the School Entity shall do the following:

a. No later than thirty days prior to the deadline for

 submitting the annual report, the chief school

 administrator shall submit the report to the police

 department with jurisdiction over the relevant school

 property. The police department shall review the report and

 compare the data regarding criminal offenses and notification

 of law enforcement to determine its accuracy.

b. No later than fifteen days prior to the deadline for

submitting the annual report, the police department shall

 notify the chief school administrator, in writing, whether

 the report accurately reflects police incident data. Where the

police department determines that the report accurately

reflects police incident data, the chief of police shall sign

the report. Where the police department determines that

the report does not accurately reflect police incident data,

the police department shall indicate any discrepancies

between the report and police incident data.

c. Prior to submitting the annual report, the chief school

 administrator and the police department shall attempt to

 resolve discrepancies between the report and police incident

 data. Where a discrepancy remains unresolved, the police

 department shall notify the chief school administrator and

 the office in writing.

d. Where a police department fails to take action as required

 under clause (a) or (b), the chief school administrator shall

 submit the annual report and indicate that the police

 department failed to take action as required under clause (a)

 or (b).

e. Where there are discrepancies between the School Entity’s

 incident data and the police incident data, the following shall

 occur:

 A PIMS report will be generated by the School Entity and forwarded to its School Security Officer, at least quarterly. The School Security Officer will review the report with the Sergeants of the applicable Law Enforcement Authority. If any inaccuracies exist, the School Security Officer and the applicable Sergeant will mutually agree to correct any such inaccuracies to reflect the police involvement accurately. Prior to the final end of year PIMS submission, the School Security Officer and the Sergeants of the Law Enforcement Authorities will review the final report prior to signature and submission to the Department of Education.

**V. Media Relations**

A. Release of information

1. The release of information concerning incidents reportable to the

 Law Enforcement Authority pursuant to the terms of this

 Memorandum shall be coordinated between the Law Enforcement

 Authority and the School Entity.

2. The parties shall release as much information as is allowable by law

with due deliberation given to the investigative considerations and the need to limit disruptions to school functions and protect the privacy of the students and staff involved.

**VI. General Provisions**

A. This Memorandum is not intended to and does not create any contractual

rights or obligations between the signatory Law Enforcement Authority,

the signatory School Entity, any additional signatory authorities or entities,

or their respective officer, employees, agents or representatives.

B. This Memorandum may be amended, expanded or modified at any time

 upon the written consent of the parties, but in any event must be reviewed

 and re-executed within two years of the date of its original execution and

 every two years thereafter.

C. In the event of changes in state or federal law which necessitate changes to

 this Memorandum, the parties shall collaborate to amend this Memorandum

 to assure compliance by the parties with state and federal requirements.

D. All parties to this Memorandum will communicate fully and openly with

 each other in order to resolve any problems that may arise in the fulfillment

 of the terms of this Memorandum.

 AND NOW, this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of December, 2013, the parties hereby acknowledge the foregoing as the terms and conditions of their understanding.

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Date

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Locations:

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