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## VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE BOARD REPORT

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**TO:** VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
**FROM:** PATRICK J. ROLLINS, CHIEF OF POLICE  
**SUBJECT:** DISCUSSION: IGA KANELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #302 FOR PROVIDING A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER  
**AGENDA:** JULY 18, 2023 - REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
**DATE:** JULY 11, 2023

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### ISSUE

Should the Village Board discuss entering into an intergovernmental agreement (I.G.A.) with Kaneland Community Unified School District # 302 reference providing a school resource officer (S.R.O.) at Harter Middle School.

### DISCUSSION

The police department was recently contacted by Kaneland School District Administration with the desire to place a school resource officer at Harter Middle School. Village staff met with Kaneland Administrative staff on Monday, July 10 at the police department. Kaneland Administration laid out their request with public safety concerns that are occurring throughout the entire country and seeing the need to place school resource officers at the Middle School level. In addition, they conveyed activity that is occurring in their own district that would be beneficial for both our entities to partner together on this initiative.

Harter Middle School is in Sugar Grove's police jurisdiction, and we have a visible presence throughout the many years of existence at the school. The police department and administrative staff at the middle school have worked alongside one another to resolve many matters.

Many area communities have an SRO at the middle school level, including St. Charles, North Aurora, Aurora, and Naperville to name a few. For those police departments that do not have an SRO, it is not uncommon for police agencies to lag behind in communication knowing when certain issues occur at schools when there is no S.R.O. in place. Sometimes, police agencies are never called as many districts handle matters internally or forget to get the police involved sooner than later. Having an S.R.O. embedded at the school provides valuable opportunities for an officer to be part of community engagement by providing valuable resources and support.

In essence, School Resource Officers are an investment in today's youth. They build relationships, reinforce positive behaviors, and often connect youth with needed services. Being impactful at this early stage can steer a wayward youth back onto the right path. Building trusted relationships among law enforcement and students will pay back dividends to the community at large.

SROs should not be involved in school disciplinary incidents that would normally be handled by administrators, teachers, or other professional staff members. Illinois recently moved strategies/platforms towards procedural justice/restorative justice/practices and conflict resolution at the school level. Sugar Grove Police Department would integrate into these concepts when a matter became part of our purview.

Kaneland School Board is an integral partner with this initiative and is being informed by the Kaneland District Administrators. Both the Kaneland School Board and Village of Sugar Grove Board of Trustees would need to enter into an I.G.A. for this initiative to take place.

Staffing the position, would require the Sugar Grove Police Department to hire an additional full-time officer, as current staffing wouldn't allow us to provide the same quality service to the remaining community if we had to pull an officer to cover the middle school.

Part of our discussion at the recent meeting, we informed their District Administration that we would not be able to immediately staff the position at the beginning of the school year but would hope to have a person in-place the following month with back-filling the street until a person could be hired and trained. In addition, the officer selected for this position would attend specialized training throughout the year.

The officer assigned to the Middle School would be present during the school days and be assigned back to patrol operations during school days off summer/winter/spring breaks, etc.

The School District would be responsible for 70% of the overall officer costs with the Village paying 30%. The School District desire is to have an S.R.O. in place year after year. Both parties would like to start off with a three-year agreement with the opportunity to extend the I.G.A. beyond that.

Finance Director Matt Anastasia prepared the below sample cost sharing numbers for illustration purposes.

Full-Time Officer (Total Compensation)			
Full-Time Officer			
Total Salary & Related Costs	\$	112,675.28	
Total Average Benefits	\$	13,680.48	
Total Additional Employment Expenses	\$	5,712.00	
Annual Total Compensation	\$	132,067.76	
		School 70% Split	Village 30% Split
	\$	92,447.43	\$ 39,620.33

*\*Pension Cost of 9% assumed*

Although the budget for the fiscal year has been approved, during this discussion, Finance Director Anastasi can speak on the health of the revenue sources to offset the costs that might be incurred.

## COST

Attorney review of an IGA cost approximately \$700.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Board discuss this initiative and direct staff if they are interested into entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Kaneland CUSD # 302 for providing a school resource officer and hiring a new full-time sworn police officer.