



San Mateo Police Department

School Resource Officer Program



A Partnership for Restorative Justice, Enhanced Trust,
and Safer Communities

History of SMPD School Resource Officers

- Early 2000's (can we say "turn of the Century"?)
 - Single Officer assigned to one HS Campus
 - "Classic SRO Model"
 - Single Juvenile Detective
 - Early Diversion Program
 - Single PAL Officer



Early Vision and Evolution

- Communication between the SRO and the Juvenile Detective
- Incorporation of PAL as a “Volunteer Hours Option” in Diversion
 - Leverage the Youth Development Model being successfully deployed in PAL
 - Evidence Based Enrichment of Youth
- Diversion Program reduced and eventually deferred to County Probation’s Assessment Center (resources) – around 2007



Introduction of GREAT – About 2012

- GREAT – Gang Resistance Education and Training
 - Introduced by PAL to San Mateo Schools
 - Also Taught in Foster City
- 13 Week Structured and Evidence-Based Program
 - Taught by a Sworn, Uniformed Officer
 - Anti Bullying
 - Anti Gang
 - “Social Defense Skills”
- Targeted towards Middle Schools – First Contracted Partnership for Funding of Great Curriculum between SMFCS and SMPD



Evolution of the Youth Services Bureau

- 2013 – SMPD Juvenile Detective revives Diversion Program
 - Targeted youth in Middle Schools and expanded to High Schools
 - Partnership with Probation and Counseling Services
 - Partnership with PAL

Evolution of Youth Services

- 2014 – PAL Officer Position evolves to PAL Sergeant Position
 - Management of PAL – Expanded Supervision Capabilities
 - Coordination Between PAL and GREAT Officer-Instructors –
EVOLVING to:
 - ADDITION of 2 School Resource Officers in Partnership with SMFCSD and SMUHSD
 - SROs to teach GREAT to all Public School 6th Graders and connect at BOTH Middle and High Schools in San Mateo!

SROs in San Mateo Public Schools - Mission

- Revised Objectives for SROs:
 - Provide an Assuring Security Presence on Campus
 - Provide a close Connection with Faculty for Important Safety and Communication Issues
 - Provide Preventative Education to Youth – to reduce behavior issues and crimes on campus
 - Early Identification of at-risk or vulnerable youth for outreach and services

Some Approximate Statistics on SROs in the Middle Schools from Jan., 2018-April, 2018

➤ Police –related calls for service:

- Bayside STEM: 13
- Borel: 23
- Abbott: 32

➤ Restorative Justice and other activities (SARBS, Restorative Circle, student/parent meetings, threat assessments, diversion referrals, etc.)

- Bayside STEM: 30
- Borel: 22
- Abbott: 24

G.R.E.A.T. Program

- Gang Resistance Education And Training
 - Evidenced-based national curriculum
 - Empowers students by teaching them life skills to avoid criminal behavior and gang membership and by arming them with skills to deal with peer pressure, bullying, and decision making
- G.R.E.A.T. Program is taught at all 3 middle schools-6th Graders
- Approximately 850-950 students per year since 2013
- Class of 2019 will be the first graduating class of students to have all received G.R.E.A.T. in the San Mateo/ Foster City middle schools

Threat Assessments

- Part of the San Mateo County Student Threat Assessment Team
 - Participated 3 threat assessments between Jan., 2018-April, 2018
 - All SROs are trained in student threat assessments for goal of ensuring school safety
 - Early identification and prevention