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**M E M O R A N D U M**

**DATE:** November 4, 2020

**TO:** Citizens' Police Task Force

**FROM:** City Staff

**SUBJECT: QUESTIONS PROVIDED TO MOUNTAIN VIEW LOS ALTOS  
UNION HIGH SCHOOL (MVLA) REPRESENTATIVES**

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At the October 28, 2020 Task Force meeting, a subcommittee of members Toni Moos, Renee Rashid and Jeanine Valadez was created to develop questions to be submitted in writing to representatives of MVLA. Those questions have been provided to the Superintendent of MVLA and are attached for the Task Force's reference.

## **Los Altos Police Task Force**

**11/2/2020**

### **Re: Questions for MVLA Administration**

The City Council of Los Altos has established a “Citizen’s Police Task Force.” One of the Task Force’s assignments is to review the School Resource Officer Program (SRO) for Los Altos High School and to provide recommendations, if any, concerning the Program.

Input by the School District on the SRO program is critical to completing this assignment. To that end, we are requesting that the District provide responses to the following questions.

These questions are about district policies and procedures, or if there are no district-wide policies and procedures, about relevant LAHS-specific policies that may exist.

#### **Program Structure:**

1. Do you know the history behind asking for the LAHS SRO program? Why was it needed?
2. What was the LAHS reasoning behind asking for a 2nd SRO? Was that exclusively for LAHS, or a roaming SRO? Were there any statistics or findings you looked at to come to this request?
3. Does MVHS have a full time SRO assigned to it?
4. Does MVPD fund the SRO program at MVHS or does the district?
5. Does MVLA have or is MVLA planning on implementing any restorative justice programs?

#### **Ultimate Goals and Monitoring Success:**

6. What are the goals of the LAHS SRO program and how do you assess whether these goals are being met?
7. Based on your findings and statistics, how has this SRO program met your goals, exceeded your goals, or fallen short of your goals?

#### **School/District Policies and Procedures:**

8. What are the policies around when LAHS SROs or police are called or when they are on campus? Is there one specific person who calls the police? Or can anyone call the police? Are there policies about checking in to the office first before walking around the school?

9. Is there a hierarchy in calling alternatives first in case of, for example, verbal threats, verbal bullying, etc.
10. By what process do you inform students and parents that a serious incident (for example, but not limited to rape, brandishing a weapon, sex crime, etc) has happened on campus?
11. When can a student be questioned by an SRO or any police officer without parent supervision or notification?
12. Assuming that LAHS has a policy for discipline of students who break the rules (i.e. getting sent to the office, detention, etc), are there ever cases where the SRO is present when this discipline is happening? If so, how is the determination made to have the SRO present or not?
13. How does LAHS identify "at risk" students? Is this information ever shared with police? Is this information shared with parents? What is the definition of an "at risk" student?
14. Do you have any policies regarding police or SRO's coming on campus to question students regarding events that may have happened off campus? Are parents notified/involved?
15. Is there any non-police or non-armed security checking grounds after hours at LAHS?
16. Are there any 4th amendment protections that don't apply to students because the school is the custodian of the student during school hours?
17. Is the SRO granted any additional authority by the school (for example, concerning search and seizure, or a student's right to refuse a search)?

**Mental Health Procedures:**

18. What is the budget for mental health/wellness of students at LAHS? Are additional funds being requested? If so, how much and for what resources?
19. Captain Katie said that officers can do a 5150 hold if the school psychologist is unavailable. Does LAHS have a school psychologist available during the school day? What is the scope of their work?
20. Is there a policy that describes the sequence of events when a student is having a crisis? Can a student or family specify how to handle their own mental health incidents?
21. When would it be the case that the school psychologist is unavailable and thus the SRO/police would need to be called directly?
22. Santa Clara County has a Santa Clara County Mobile Crisis Response Team that responds to mental health crises from 8 AM-8PM. Have they ever been called by school administration? What is the policy for LAHS to ask for this Crisis Response Team? There were 8 calls for mental health issues to the police, 1 suicide attempt, 1 suicide threat, 7 welfare checks, and 20 medical emergencies (some of which could be mental health related). In how many of these cases was the school psychologist or Crisis Response Team called first?

**Oversight for SRO Program:**

23. Do you track data on service calls put out to the police at each of the high schools in MVLA, and do you have that data available for us to see?

24. Do you have demographic (gender, race, disability) breakdowns for school disciplinary data and police service call requests?
25. How open is the district to implementing better policies, data gathering and analysis around SRO's and policing on campus to ensure the safety and mental well-being of our students?

**Education:**

26. Do LAHS teachers and staff undergo Implicit Bias training?
27. Do teachers/admin/staff receive any kind of training in de-escalation, mediation, and crisis intervention?
28. Are students notified or educated about their rights regarding interactions with SROs? How is this information communicated to the students?
29. Are students and parents educated about the SRO program in general (goals, policies), as well as outcomes?

**Feedback Process:**

30. Has the LAHS admin ever received or reached out for feedback on SROs/police interactions from students, teachers/staff or even teachers' union? What does the school do with this feedback? Does the school ever pass this info on to police? Is this information archived/retained and available for public review?