

# ANKENY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## ACTION IN RESPONSE TO IOWA HOUSE FILE 2586 (2004)

*May 20, 2024*

### Overview

On April 19, 2024, Governor Kim Reynolds signed HF 2586 (2024) into law. At a high level, this legislation amended Iowa law related to school security in two ways. First, by adding Section 279.84 to Iowa Code, the legislation created new requirements related to school security personnel. Second, by amending Section 724.6 (1)(a), the legislation authorized the state to issue “professional permits” to carry weapons in the course of their employment to school district personnel who meet certain requirements. This document outlines the way in which the Ankeny Community School District (“District”) Board of Education (“Board”) has elected to respond to these changes in Iowa law.

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### School Security Personnel

Iowa Code Section 279.84 requires that, as of July 1, 2024, the District “*retain the services of, at least one private school security officer or school resource officer to guard each attendance center where students enrolled in grade nine, grade ten, grade eleven, or grade twelve regularly attend classes,*” unless the Board votes not to take such action.

Beginning in school year 2024-2025 and unless and until required otherwise by law and/or Board vote, the District will do each of the following:

- **10th - 12th Grade Attendance Centers:** In alignment with the 28E Agreement currently in place with the City of Ankeny (“City”), maintain its practice of retaining the services of one (1) school resource officer (“SRO”) from the City of Ankeny Police Department (“Ankeny PD”) for each of its two (2) 10th - 12th grade attendance centers. Should the City no longer have the interest or capacity to provide the(se) SROs, the District shall amend its 28E with the City and retain the services of a private school security officer, as defined by Iowa law, to provide security coverage at the relevant 10th - 12th grade attendance center(s).
- **8th - 9th Grade Attendance Centers:** The following shall govern the District’s action related to school security personnel in its 8th - 9th attendance centers:
  - Subject to the District’s ability to reach an agreement with the City and the City’s capacity to provide additional SRO(s), the District shall retain the services of one (1) additional SRO who shall be assigned to an 8th - 9th grade attendance center as determined by the superintendent/designee.
  - The District shall explore the potential of retaining private school security officers, as defined by Iowa law, to provide security coverage for any District 8th - 9th grade attendance center without SRO coverage.
  - However, the District shall not be required to provide either SRO and/or private school security officer(s) to an 8th - 9th attendance center(s) if, in the superintendent/designee’s discretion, the provision of such services cannot be achieved in a high-quality, financially-sustainable manner.

- **Non-Attendance Center District Facilities Serving 9th - 12th Grade Students:** As part of its efforts to retain the services of private school security officers for its 8th - 9th grade attendance centers, the District shall explore the potential for placing such personnel at other non-attendance center district facilities where 9th - 12th grade students attend classes (e.g., Orbis, Summit). The District shall endeavor to provide such coverage if, in the superintendent/designee's discretion, provision of such services can be achieved in a high-quality, financially-sustainable manner.
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## **Professional Permits for the Carrying of Weapons on District Property**

As of April 19, 2024, Iowa Code Section 724.6(1)(a) has authorized District employees who meet certain requirements to *"be issued a [professional] permit to carry weapons"* that allows *"the person to whom it is issued to go armed anywhere in the state, only while engaged in the employment, and while going to and from the place of the employment."* However, Iowa law also requires that, for a school employee with a professional permit to carry a weapon on District property, the District must have authorized such possession.

Unless and until required otherwise by law and/or Board vote, the District shall not authorize school employees to carry weapons on District property.

This prohibition shall not be interpreted to limit the otherwise-lawful authority of law enforcement and/or duly-appointed private security school officers and/or SROs to carry weapon(s) on District property.

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