

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

WAYNESBORO CITY SCHOOLS

and

WAYNESBORO CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 2020

PREAMBLE

Waynesboro City Schools (SD) and the Waynesboro City Police Department (PD) hereby enter into the School-Law Enforcement Partnership (SLEP) to foster relations of mutual respect and understanding in order to build a positive and safe school environment. The parties agree the vast majority of student misconduct can be best addressed through classroom and in-school strategies. The parties acknowledge that students are generally less mature and responsible than adults; they often lack the maturity, experience, perspective, and judgment to recognize and avoid choices that could be detrimental to them; and they are more susceptible to outside pressures than adults.

All responses to school misconduct should be reasonable, consistent, and fair, with appropriate consideration of mitigating factors and of the nature and severity of the incident. Students should receive appropriate redirection and support from in-school and community resources prior to the consideration of suspension, expulsion, involvement of law enforcement, or referral to court. This document is meant to be an accompaniment to the School and Law Enforcement Partnership Guide. For further details and instructions regarding the Partnership, please see the Guide.

PURPOSE

The partnership is intended to facilitate effective, timely communication and coordination of efforts for both parties – the SD and PD. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish a mutually beneficial framework that both schools and law enforcement can work within to achieve shared goals.

GOALS

The primary goals of the SLEP are 1) to promote positive and supportive school climates and 2) to create and maintain safe and secure school environments.

To promote positive and supportive school climates, the partnership will collaborate to increase law-related education, expand school safety and crime prevention efforts, reduce conflict, and support effective interventions for students.