

Appleton School Board Members,

Below is a brief synopsis of some of the things I experience during my days here at James Madison Middle School. All SRO's hold the position of Sensitive Crimes Investigators as well, meaning we investigate all sexual assaults and child abuse cases that take place within the City of Appleton. With that said, I didn't feel documenting times dedicated to those investigations were relevant to the goal here. Additionally, I am proud of my role and the interactions I have with both students and staff within this building. I feel it important to give proper credit for the skill set I possess to all the other SRO's I've had the good fortune of working with both as a former teacher and police officer. While there are certain parts of the day that remain consistent, I tried to provide a diverse selection of events to give greater insight into what we do in the SRO world.

Tuesday 12/07/2021:

0800 Building Security check- A request made during our last ALICE training was to stage classroom doors to the locked position if the educator preferred to keep the classroom door open during instructional time. As part of my walk through, I ensure all open doors are staged properly.

0900 Student check-ins- Patrol notifies SRO's of police contact with juveniles enrolled in our schools when the contact is made outside of school hours. Contact may include theft complaints, domestic violence concerns, welfare checks. When this occurs, I discuss the contact with the student to listen to their viewpoint, clarify questions, and reinforce expected behavior moving forward. Often, these conversations enhance rapport between student and the SRO. Furthermore, when appropriate, details may be shared with staff to ensure student receives the accommodations needed to be successful in the classroom.

0930 Student contact- Student had struggled with classroom expectations. I had a positive relationship with student and was asked to briefly meet with him. During that conversation, I was able to breakdown options in how we cope with various frustrations. Student articulated problems with his morning but was able to return to class and found success for the remainder of the day.

1100-1200 Assisted with Lunch Room Supervision- This serves as time to socialize with student. Depending on the day, I, along with associate principal, Andy Schanke, will throw the football with students or play basketball/soccer and have general conversations.

1230 1v1 Basketball- Played game to 7 as a reward for overcoming a tough couple of days with issues outside of the school.

130 Sensitive Crime Investigation: As a sensitive crimes investigator, we always maintain a case load. This afternoon was spent documenting and meeting with the Outagamie County DA's Office.

WEDNESDAY 12/08/2021 (Late Start)

0800 SRO Meeting held at APD

1100 hours- Student Interaction- On 12/07, student showed me his shoes that had been duct taped together. I told him to check in with me if he could not get a replacement pair that night. At 1100 hours, student requested to meet to talk about his shoes. Through the "school closet," we found a new

pair of Nike running shoes that fit perfectly. Student was seen showing off his new kicks to school administration later in the day.

1245 hours- Lunch Room Supervision- Socialized with 7th grade students during their lunch and played lighting while outside.

1400 hours Teacher Conference- JMMS student violated the terms of a hold open citation and was subject to receiving a DC citation. Student comes from a single parent home and struggles with attendance. Instead of going to class, the student would rather earn money by working various jobs for neighbors. Rather than issue a citation, the student is expected to work within the school with 15 community service hours. Student has enjoyed the work and is approximately 25% complete.

Thursday 12/09/2021

0815 hours walk with a student- A particular student had initially struggled both in school and outside of school with violent behaviors. Student had received multiple write-ups while in school and received citations from law enforcement without showing much willingness to modify behaviors. Parents were fully cooperative and willing to share the background of the student's past. We began meeting daily. I listened to frustrations, called out past trauma the student had experienced, and created a plan to address the moments when the student makes a mistake and is expected to confront them. Family and I worked together to seek assistance from the county to create long term goals. Student has had no write-ups or negative police contact in approximately two weeks. This morning, I walked with student to class to reinforce the pride I felt in seeing the student's growth.

Friday 12/10/2021

0900 hours Internet Safety presentation update- SRO's are often invited into classrooms to discuss various topics. An important area of concern for students is addressing internet safety and the dangers that can come from various social media apps. In this instance, The AE SRO asked for a rundown in how the information is best presented.

1215 hours SEBD Card Game- I observed an SEBD student show excitement while playing a card game with a staff member. I asked him if he'd be willing to teach me the game after he met his morning goals. Student met his goals and he taught me the game....I won. Rematch is scheduled for next week.

1400 hours Student concern over sexting- A JMMS student reported to the guidance counselor that another student had been requesting nude images via snapchat. I met with both students independently and coordinated with the family of the student who had been requesting the images. Because no images had been sent, student received a civics lesson, and with father's permission, phone was wiped clean of various social media accounts.

1500 Sensitive Crimes report writing- Documenting interviews and/or statements can take a long time to get through. We balance our case load while ensuring we are still in our building meeting with students and staff.

Monday 12/13/2021

0815 Building Security Check- As described earlier, we ask staff members to stage their doors to the locked position during instruction time. More doors were unlocked than normal so an email was sent asking staff to make appropriate modifications.

0900 Weekend student check-in – Patrol officers notified me they had responded to a particular home for a disturbance where a JMMS student resides. This morning I spoke with student to offer additional support within the building.

115 Attendance meeting- School administrators and support staff meet weekly to address attendance issue. I am called in to provide updates and possible insight as to what is happening in student's lives outside of school.

Tuesday 12/14/2021

EBD/SEBD classroom check-in- When time permits and when it is appropriate to do so, I spend time in various classrooms catching up with students and staff with no specific agenda in place. Conversations are lighthearted and designed to establish positive rapport.

1210 Student Card game (cancelled)- I was scheduled to play cards with a student, however, student failed to meet the expectations of the classroom. I spoke with student about meeting deadlines and completing work before having fun.

Wednesday 12/15/2021-

0900 badminton game- Associate Principal and I challenged two students to a game of badminton during their PE time. Students were excited they got the win (22-20)

1100 Lunchroom Supervision: Challenged students to a game of lightning. If I won, they'd have to do a series of sprints....they were tired after they completed their two sets of sprints 😊

1130 Student concern- I was called out of lunchroom supervision as a student I have built a rapport with wished to speak with me about frustrations she felt towards another student. Bullying was a part of the concern, so school administration was brought in to assist with the conversations. Mediation was successful and expectations for all involved were reestablished.

1300 Student welfare check- Student was struggling with things going on in their personal life. I met with student, discussed concerns and created a safety plan for the remainder of the school day. Parent was contacted and informed of certain concerns felt by the child.

1500 student mediation- Student had reported that best friend had been telling others that the student is a snitch for reporting something to school administration a few weeks ago. Met with the student and set expectations.

Tuesday 01/18/2022

0800- Instagram Hate Page. On Friday evening, six reports were generated in the STOP IT app. All reports related to a “hate page” that had been created referencing a female student that attends JMMS. Cruel captions were posted on each image regarding the student’s physical appearance. I sent a message to the IG account expressing my disappointment in their choice and requested the account be removed. Because the STOP IT reports identified the creators of the account, on Tuesday, I, along with Andy Schanke, were able to meet with the creators and their families to discuss the decisions, reasoning behind them, and consequences moving forward. A report like this can take several hours to confront as each student wants to rationalize their position and feel heard.

Wednesday 01/19/2022

0900 Student meeting- An at-risk teacher approached me and asked to meet with a student who expressed the desire to “make a deal” with me. The student had seen me playing basketball 1-on-1 with another student and wanted to know what they did to earn that opportunity. It was explained opportunities like that are created when students show good attendance, meet daily expectations, and avoid negative interactions with students and peers. He asked if we could make a deal so he could play a game on occasion. We called in his case manager and addressed areas that required improvement and incorporated those weaknesses into our goal. Now, at the beginning of each day, the student enters my office and checks off the date on a monthly calendar taped to my wall. 10 days of perfect attendance earns a basketball game.

1100 hours Home visit- I received a request from the school social worker requesting a home visit to a student who has not shown up since 01/03/2022. I viewed the background of the student and learned she and her brother lived in a known drug house. I determined it would not be appropriate for a staff member to be at the residence. With that, I collaborated with our Special Investigations Unit Probation/Parole, and Child Protective Services to make locating the students a priority. This is still an on-going issue.

1300 hours Lost Winter Coat- Student came to me and stated their winter coat went missing. The student was clearly upset and unsure if the jacket was left somewhere or stolen. Andy and I followed the student on the cameras throughout his day to determine where the jacket had been left. Jacket was returned