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July 18, 2014

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Erie County Sheriff's Office – School Resource Officer
Immediate Consideration Requested

Honorable Members:

Attached please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum from the Erie County Sheriff's Office requesting authorization to accept a grant and receive funding from the Erie 2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES in the amount of \$100,000. Funding will be utilized by Erie County Sheriff's Office for a School Resource Officer within Erie County to promote a safe environment and increase security in the Alden, Holland, Iroquois, North Collins and Springville school districts.

I kindly request the Erie County Legislature consider and approval at the July 24, 2014 meeting of your Honorable Body. Representatives of the Sheriff's Office will be available to answer any questions.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY B. HOWARD
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

Attachments

ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM

RE: Erie County Sheriff's Office
School Resource Officer

I. Summary of Recommended Action

The attached resolution requests authorization for the County of Erie to receive funding in the amount of \$100,000 from the Erie 2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES. The purpose of School Resource Officer Grant is for the Sheriff to assign one uniformed Deputy Officer to be shared among the Districts as a SRO. The Deputy Officer assigned as SRO will work with the Districts to provide alcohol and drug education, maintain a peaceful campus environment, and take appropriate action regarding on-campus or school related activity, attend sporting events and extra-curricular activities when needed, and to provide other functions as mutually agreed upon by both to promote a safe environment and increase security in the Alden, Holland, Iroquois, North Collins and Springville school districts.

II. Fiscal Implications of Proposal

No impact on County Tax Dollars. Funds will provide for all expenses needed to support this program.

III. Reasons for Recommendation

Budget constraints have limited the ability of the aforementioned school districts to include School Resource Officers in their budgets, as such none of the districts are able to employ a School Resource Officer on the respective campuses.

IV. Consequence of Negative Action

The County will forfeit \$100,000 in funding that will support local school districts and provide a first responder for their districts' buildings.

V. Steps Following Approval of Measure

Certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the Division of Budget and Management, the Erie County Comptroller's Office, the County Attorney and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Re: Erie County Sheriff's Office
School Resource Officer Grant

WHEREAS, School Resource Officers (hereinafter "SROs") are vital to the safety of students and surrounding communities, in that they help promote a safe environment in schools so the focus can be on the delivery of instruction; and

WHEREAS, SROs serve a multifaceted purpose in our schools including serving as first responders for any and all incidents on a school district's campus whether its violence between students/staff, an individual in a school or on the campus without permission, or a medical emergency; and

WHEREAS, budget constraints have limited the ability of the Alden, Holland, Iroquois, N. Collins and Springville school districts, (hereinafter "the Districts") to include SROs in their budgets, such that none of the Districts are able to employ a SRO on their campuses; and

WHEREAS, New York State Senator Patrick Gallivan (hereinafter "Senator Gallivan"), has secured a one-hundred thousand dollar (\$100,000) legislative initiative grant to fund an SRO to be shared by the Districts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the special legislative grant, BOCES shall serve as the contract coordinator for administrative purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has conferred with BOCES and the Districts, and has agreed to provide and assign one uniformed Deputy Officer to be shared among the Districts as SRO; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of all parties that neither BOCES nor the Districts will incur any additional expense for the Sheriff's provision of the uniformed Deputy Officer beyond the funds provided by the legislative initiative grant secured by Senator Gallivan's office; and

WHEREAS, the BOCES and the County, acting through its Sheriff, desire to set forth in this Agreement the specific terms and conditions of the services to be performed and provided by the deputy officer as SRO in the Districts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislatures does hereby authorize the County Executive to enter into contract and agreement with Erie 2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES and accept funds in the amount of \$100,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to enter into sub-contracts with the participating agencies to reimburse the expenses incurred while participating in the School Resource Officer program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby provided to the Division of Budget and Management to make necessary budgetary adjustments to effect this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to establish and adjust budgets as required to comply with State and Federal approved funding levels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Office of the Comptroller, the County Attorney and the Office of the Sheriff.