

Overview of Miami-Dade Schools Police Safety Programs and Strategies

- **Anti-Bullying Policy**-M -DCPS has the most extensive anti-bullying policy in the state. School police undergo annual training and work closely with the Office of Mental Health and Crisis Management.
- **Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)**-School Police are certified in CIT to improve the delivery of services when handling calls for service involving youth with mental illness.
- **Gang Abatement Detail**-School Police work with local law enforcement officials, community based organizations and other service providers to target gang activity in the school and community. Enforcement details are conducted; follow-up home visits and referrals to appropriate organizations are made.
- **Aggressive Driving Unit (ADU)**-ADU personnel conduct traffic enforcement in school speed zones to reduce the number of traffic crashes involving members from the school community.
- **School Resource Officer (SRO) Program**-Each comprehensive high school has a SRO assigned to the school.
- **Arrest Diversion initiatives**-The Department created and implemented a number of arrest diversion programs e.g., Civil Citation, 12 and Under Review, and Warn and Dismiss, designed to reduce the number of youth entering the Juvenile Justice System (JJS). The success of these programs is illustrated on charts and graphs, which have been provided. A steady decrease in juvenile arrests, particularly arrests of African Americans, and an increase to diversion programs is evidenced. Successful completion of these programs leads to youth not entering the JJS. The Department was recently lauded by the state for having the largest reduction in juvenile arrests throughout the state. The model is predicated on a prevention, intervention and enforcement as a last resort approach.
- **Anonymous Reporting**-M-DCPS utilizes an anonymous reporting system whereby students, staff or members of the community can report crimes anonymously via text, email , phone or drop box. The instructions for making anonymous reports have been attached.
- **Random Metal Detection Program (RMDP)**-M-DSPD developed a RMDP, funded through traffic citation fines, whereby M-DSPD conduct random and/or data driven weapons screenings at secondary schools to deter weapons from being brought onto campuses. The schools are selected utilizing a random number generator software system.
- **Truancy Sweeps**-M-DSPD conducts monthly truancy sweeps to increase attendance and reduce juvenile crime within the community. School Police partner with local law enforcement to conduct sweeps.
- **Mentoring Program**-M-DSPD has partnered with the Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Greater Miami to create a "Bigs in Blue" program, pairing cops and kids together in one-to-one matches, at our most challenged elementary schools. This program promotes academics and quality of life issues for the at-risk youth.