



NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Memo

To: Governing Board for the Collegiate High School
From: Dr. Devin Stephenson, President
Date: February 21, 2023
Re: Updates to School Safety Protocols

Safety is the first priority at NWFSC and CHS. CHS is enhancing and improving its safety features. In alignment with other Okaloosa County School District schools, updated best practices are being implemented to support the health and well-being of all students, including additions to staffing, equipment, and emergency procedures.

This month, a School Resource Officer (SRO) has been appointed to provide dedicated support to CHS. In addition to being present in CHS facilities to optimize response time when needs arise, the officer will serve as a positive role model by building daily relationships with students. Additional responsibilities include training faculty, staff, and students, supporting an ongoing, proactive effort to advance safety knowledge and practices onsite.

In addition to staffing, CHS is working to enhance security infrastructure at the school by adding cameras to the interior hallways of both CHS buildings. These cameras will feed into the current NWFSC monitoring system that can be viewed by the NWFSC Campus Police and the CHS SRO. Additionally, through the relationship between the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office and NWFSC Campus Police and at no cost to CHS or the College, the Sheriff's Office (using Fusus security software) can connect to our monitoring system to support CHS with real-time connection to first responders and other public safety professionals.

CHS remains committed to providing a safe and healthy school environment where students can learn and thrive. In support of this commitment to safety, CHS is actively working with OCSD to enhance procedures that promote school security. CHS plans to bring forward a recommendation in a future meeting to adopt OCSD's Comprehensive Emergency Operation Plan. Adoption of this plan will bring updated best practices for safety in instructional spaces as an addition to school safety protocols currently in place at CHS.