

Contact: Lt. Eric Burr
Phone: (620) 441-6601
Fax: (620) 442-1410
eburr@arkansascityks.gov

Police Department
City of Arkansas City
117 W. Central Ave.
Arkansas City, KS 67005



News Release

Arkansas City police announce new Adopt-a-School program

Police department to work in concert with USD 470, local elementary schools

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (February 21, 2018) — The Arkansas City Police Department is proud to announce a new program conceived in a partnership with Arkansas City Public School District.

Patrol officers employed by the Arkansas City Police Department will be taking part in a new Adopt-a-School program with the four public elementary schools located within the city limits of Arkansas City.

The Adopt-a-School program is a cooperative initiative to increase relations between the police and the elementary schools. The stated goals of the program include:

- fostering positive interactions between officers and students;
- providing resources to elementary school staff;
- increasing building safety through heightened visibility and presence;
- helping the officers to become part of their schools' culture.

Officers involved in the program already have completed an orientation program provided by the current School Resource Officer assigned to Ark City Middle School, located at 400 E. Kansas Ave.

The program centers on frequent check-ins throughout the school day while the officer is on patrol.

Opportunities to engage with students happen during times when students are transitioning from one class to the next, as well as recess and lunch periods.

The Adopt-a-School program is a direct result of the successes shown through the police department's Cops in Schools lunch visits, which are in their second year of existence.

Since Jan. 4, officers have conducted more than 50 school checks among the four in-town schools.

They have found ways to become involved by attending special events such as visits to wax museums, holiday parties and lunches.

For immediate release

more

Police Officer Matt Mayo has even lent his guitar-playing ability to Roosevelt Elementary School, located at 300 North B St., to help with the school's music classes.

The officers that students and staff usually will see in their schools are Police Officer Tyrone Hall, Police Officer Wade Hammond, Mayo and Police Officer Cori Tuxhorn.

The program is overseen by Lt. Eric Burr. Each officer has two primarily assigned schools, which will allow for the schools to receive a visit on each day of the school week.

In addition to Roosevelt, the other three elementary schools involved in the program are:

- Adams Elementary School, located at 1201 N. 10th St.
- Frances Willard Elementary School, located at 201 N. Fourth St.
- Jefferson Elementary School, located at 131 E. Osage Ave.

###