

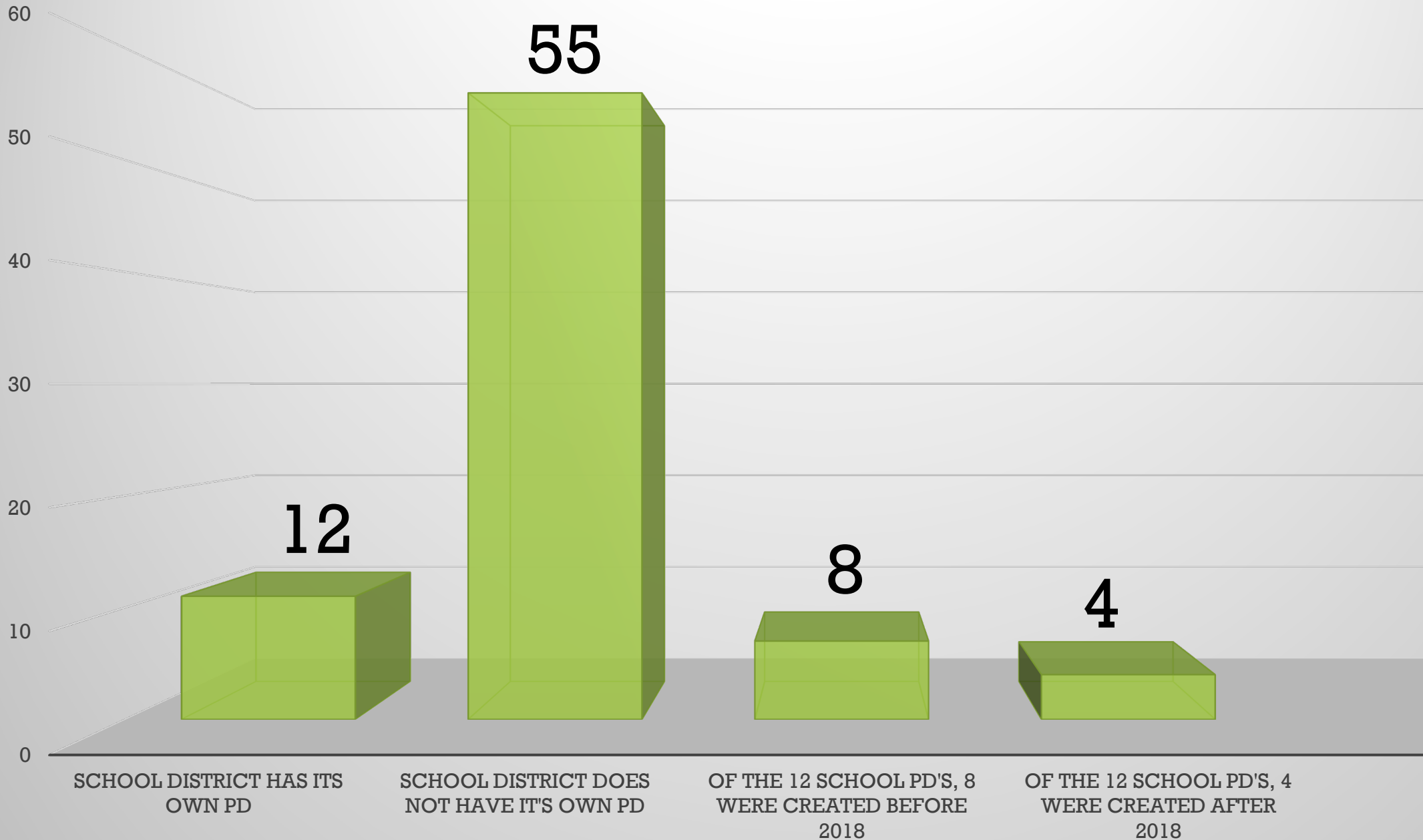


SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER & SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT COMPARISON

STATEWIDE COUNTY COMPARISON

- There are 67 counties in Florida.
- Of the 67 counties, only 14 have their own school district police departments.
- Of the 14, only 4 were created after 2018.
- Clay County District Schools PD was disbanded in 2023.
- Alachua and Putnam County District Schools PD do not employ full time Officers at Schools; the local Sheriff / municipalities cover the schools.
- The Chief of these two departments is only a figurehead / law enforcement liaison.

Statewide County School District PD comparison



TRI-COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PD COMPARISON

	<u>Miami Dade County</u>	<u>Broward County</u>	<u>Palm Beach County</u>
Size	3 rd largest in the Nation	6 th largest in the Nation	10 th largest in the Nation
District Budget	\$7.3 Billion	\$5.3 Billion	\$5.3 Billion
No. of students	331K+	254K+	189K+
No. of Schools	522	332	182
Established	1957	1988	1972
Sworn Officers	500 sworn officers	34 sworn officers (does not perform SRO duties)	323 sworn officers
PD Budget	Approx \$52 million	Approx \$16 million	Approx \$27 Million

BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PD CREATION?

In January 2024, the Broward County School Board voted unanimously to 'table the idea' of creating its own district police department; few board members supported the plan, which would spend \$37 million to hire 369 police officers. Broward's public schools will continue to be served by a mixture of school resource officers provided by the Sheriff's Office, local police agencies, and armed guardians.

PRO'S & CONS OF MAINTAINING FLPD SRO'S...

Pro's

- The community and BCSB want to keep local SROs in schools
- School safety & security force multiplier
- Local Officers maintain positive relationships with youth
- Rapid emergency response and immediate local backup
- Local collaboration with school staff
- School specific education and training
- Behavioral Threat Assessments (BTA's)

Con's

- Reduced close youth relationships
- No BCSB contributions toward vehicles, equipment, training, etc
- Funding (loss of staffing salary contributions)
- Staffing (could be placed back in patrol)
- Legal liability
- Mandated to always cover assigned schools (deplete patrol possibility)
- No salary contribution from BCSB for Lieutenant, Sergeant, or roving officer

SHOULD OUR PARTNERSHIP END, FLPD WILL CONTINUE TO...

- ❑ Remain committed to building and maintaining positive relationships with our school's youth, faculty, and staff through community engagement and active partnerships.
- ❑ Host regular community engagement events such as Career Day, Turkey Drive, and Teen Summit which foster a positive cycle of support and collaboration between our youth and the broader community.
- ❑ Assign school liaison officers to each school to maintain open lines of communication and support. These officers would contact schools frequently to address areas of concern, perform lockdown drills, and create environments where youth feel supported, empowered, and motivated to reach their full potential.

FORT LAUDERDALE SCHOOLS

FLPD cover's 10 Middle and High Schools with Officers. The SRO unit is managed by one Sergeant and one Lieutenant.

Lieutenant: Tanisha Stevens

Sergeant: Mark Wright

Middle School SRO's:

- Juanita Brown, Sunrise
- Luis Darcia, New River
- Daisy Loveras, William Dandy

High & Alternative School SRO's:

- Paul Johnson, Fort Laud High
- Ashley Williams, Dillard 6-12
- Brandon Tobias, Dillard 6-12
- Richard Matos, Sheridan Tech
- Christina Lockett, Stranahan High
- Quenton Wright, Seagull
- Johnny McCray, Whiddon Rogers

Auxiliary (Floater):

- Annica Williams-Brown



SRO DUTIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Most argue that SRO's are solely for school safety. However, it goes way beyond...

- Build & maintain relationships with students
- Teach various classes to students and admin
- Perform lockdown, fire, and evacuation drills
- Host security meetings for improvements
- Student/parent mediation meetings
- Perform Behavioral Threat Assessments (BTA's)
- Refer students/families to various social and mental health services
- Direct traffic, assist students to cross streets



FLPD SRO DUTIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CAN BE CONTINUED UNDER SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM)

- ❑ Host off-duty student clubs/groups (Youth Behind the Shield, Crime Watch Club etc)
- ❑ Host on-going mentorship programs (L.E. Experience, Helping Each other Rise, etc)
- ❑ Assist with numerous community engagement events (back-to-school giveaway's, 'David Deal Playday', beach clean up's, national night out against crime, etc)
- ❑ Handle all calls for service for incidents that occur at school
- ❑ Assist Officers and Detectives with various investigations (missing identifying students, etc)



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Exhibit 1

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IN SUMMARY...



The decision to continue employing SROs in partnership with the school board is multifaceted and should be approached with careful consideration of the various aforementioned factors presented. The partnership remains a part of a comprehensive approach to school safety that considers the needs and concerns of the entire school community.

SROs prioritize the safety, well-being, and rights of all students while considering the broader goals of creating inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environments. No matter the agency assigned to an SRO program, FLPD will continue its unwavering commitment to serve our youth, schools, and the broader community with professionalism, integrity, and dedication to public safety.