



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Apr 26, 2022 - April 26, 2022 Regular Board Meeting - - 5:00 P.M. (IN-PERSON)
Category	9. BOARD BYLAWS, BOARD POLICIES & ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
Subject	9.2 (A): Approval of SUSD Department of Public Safety Policy 709 Military Equipment
Type	Action
Recommended Action	It is recommended the Board of Trustees approve the SUSD Department of Public Safety Policy 709 military equipment

INTRODUCTION

Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481) requires law enforcement agencies to obtain approval from their governing body through the adoption of a "Military Equipment" use policy prior to the funding, acquiring, using, or continuing the use of equipment identified as military equipment per AB 481 (Govt. Code Sections 7070-7075). The term "military equipment" used in AB 481 includes equipment used in the overall best practices for Law Enforcement throughout the country to enhance community/citizen safety and officer safety. The Stockton Unified School District Department of Public Safety (SUSD DPS) seeks authorization to continue use of pre-existing equipment within the definition of AB 481.

ANALYSIS

The Stockton Unified School District Department of Public Safety possesses the following items deemed "military equipment" per AB 481: (1) Rifles and their ammunition, and (2) School Emergency Mobile Communications Vehicle. The items listed above have been in place prior to the implementation of AB 481 and there are no known reasonable alternatives that can achieve the same objective for officer and civilian safety. Further acquisitions of any item deemed "military equipment" will require a public meeting, policy update, and board approval. SUSD DPS is committed to using the most up to date tools and equipment to safeguard the students and staff of the Stockton Unified School District. There is significant interest in ensuring law enforcement continues to have access to equipment that will provide our officers as many options as possible to safeguard lives, ensure safety, and protect civil liberties. The use of the tools identified above are vital to SUSD DPS's mission and will continue to be strictly regulated through internal processes and oversight. The proposed department policy 709 ensures that there are safeguards including transparency, oversight, and accountability measures in place. Each item's necessity is further described below:

Command and control vehicles: The school emergency mobile communications vehicle (SEMC) is an unarmored vehicle equivalent to a commercial recreational vehicle. It is equipped with specific communication and audio-visual devices to assist in command and control of a critical incident. The vehicle allows for mobile incident command and use of the Incident Command Systems facilitating the best possible on scene decision-making by key leaders. It provides for the mobility, sheltering, logistical support, and power. There is no known alternative for the SEMC which provides the same amount of mobility and support at one location in a quick deploying package.

Specialized firearms and ammunitions including assault weapons: Patrol rifles enable an officer when in compliance with the department Use of Force policy, to address medium to long distance threats, or those threats who are heavily armed, armored or both. Further, in short and long-distance deployments, they allow officers precision shot placement minimizing the risk to officers and innocent citizens. There are no alternatives to these weapons that will provide the same level of distance or precision.

Funding Source

SUSD Department of Public Safety Operating Budget

Prepared by

Richard M. Barries, Chief of Police

Reviewed by

Approved by

Motion & Voting

It is recommended the Board of Trustees approve the SUSD Department of Public Safety Policy 709 military equipment

Motion by Maria Mendez, second by Alicia Rico.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Maria Mendez, Cecilia Mendez, Scot McBrian, Alicia Rico, Zachary I Avelar

Nay: AngelAnn Flores

Not Present at Vote: Ray C Zulueta Jr