

**Katy Independent School District
Police Department
“Serving Campus and Community”**

Introduction

Mid to late 1980s five specialists provided security services to Katy ISD. Specialists were former police officers who saw a need for law enforcement services and the School Board agreed. The Board acted in December, 1988 and the police department was formed. The original four specialists and Chief Mark Hopkins took office in January 1989. Today there are 34 Police Officer positions allocated.

In 1989 there were seven ISD police depts. Today there are more than 120 and the Katy ISD Police Department has been a model for many of those departments.

Mission Statement

The Katy Independent School District Police Department is committed to providing the District’s administrators, staff, and patrons with specialized services that strengthens their ability to provide a safe and secure learning environment.

Officer Certifications

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education licenses and certifies peace officers. There are four TCLEOSE certifications including Basic, Intermediate, Advanced and Master. The certifications held by Katy ISD officers include 16 Master, 8 Advanced, 2 Intermediate, and 8 Basic.

Law Enforcement Division

Our officers provide foot patrol of campuses and athletic facilities; bicycle patrol of large instructional complexes and Rhodes Stadium parking lots; and motor vehicle patrol of streets contiguous to campuses and bus routes.

K-9 Unit

We currently have two canine teams. Both canines are trained to detect marijuana, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and all their derivatives. Canine teams may be used to inspect any unoccupied classroom, Lockers and Vehicles. All staff & student areas are subject to inspections; however, canines are not allowed to search a person.

Critical Incident Response

Our officers are trained in Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Tactics; as well as, perimeter security, building search, biohazard containment, criminal apprehension, victim recovery in hostile environment, and hostage Negotiations.

Use of Force

Force may only be used to the extent necessary to achieve lawful objectives; and then, only to the extent that is reasonable and necessary, while protecting any person, including the officer, from serious bodily injury or death.

The decision to use force at any level is based upon the danger posed by the individual confronting the police or another person, rather than on the nature or category of the offense. Our officers use only department-approved weapons, including electronic incapacitation devices (TASER); and then, only in accordance with District policies and the manner for which the weapon was designed.

Excessive force is any force that is objectively unreasonable or unnecessary under the circumstances and is prohibited. Whether force is reasonably necessary or excessive is measured by the force a reasonable and prudent law enforcement officer would use under the same circumstances.

**Katy Independent School District
Police Department
“Serving Campus and Community”**

Communications Division

Our Dispatch Center operates 24 hour per day, 365 days per year. The dispatchers receive and dispatch calls for service and monitor intrusion and fire alarms.

Security Division

There are unarmed security guards at all secondary campuses; as well as, electronic intrusion protection and CCTV systems at all facilities.

Compulsory Attendance Division

Truant students are referred to the Attendance Officer who monitors their attendance, facilitates compliance, and provide the Justice Court with evidence of violations. The Texas Compulsory Attendance Law states that a student, parent or guardian is in violation if the student is absent 10 or more days or parts of days in a 6 month period or without a lawful excuse, absent 3 days or parts of days in a 4 week period. All parents must be given notice of the compulsory attendance law and that notice is published each year in the student handbook.

When a pattern of truancy is displayed, the campus sends a warning notification to the parent. If absences continue, the student is referred to the attendance officer.

The attendance officer verifies the student’s attendance and sends 2nd warning notice to the parent. After five days from the date of the 2nd notice, the attendance officer closely monitors the student’s attendance. If another absence occurs, a citation to appear in court is issued and a Justice of the Peace decides the case.

Community Services

Specially trained officers provide Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) to all elementary students with an emphasis on fifth grade. The DARE curriculum is presented by a Katy ISD police officer to each 5th grade class once per week for 10 weeks, culminating in a graduation ceremony that includes students, teachers and parents.

We facilitate DARE Role Model Clubs at all six high schools whose membership includes secondary students who passed an extensive application process.

We also make the DARE Parent/Student Academy available to all junior high students and their parents. There are three academies; each includes a two-hour evening session, once each week for four weeks.

Police Explorers

We sponsor a law enforcement explorer post that is a career exploration program affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America. Explorers are Katy ISD students who are male or female, ages 14 – 21, and maintain a 2.0 GPA. They train in law enforcement services, participate in law enforcement competitions and provide community service.

Crime Prevention Programs

Examples of our crime prevention programs include personal and property protection lectures, security audits of facilities, drug abuse and gang recognition lectures, and rape aggression defense (RAD) training.