

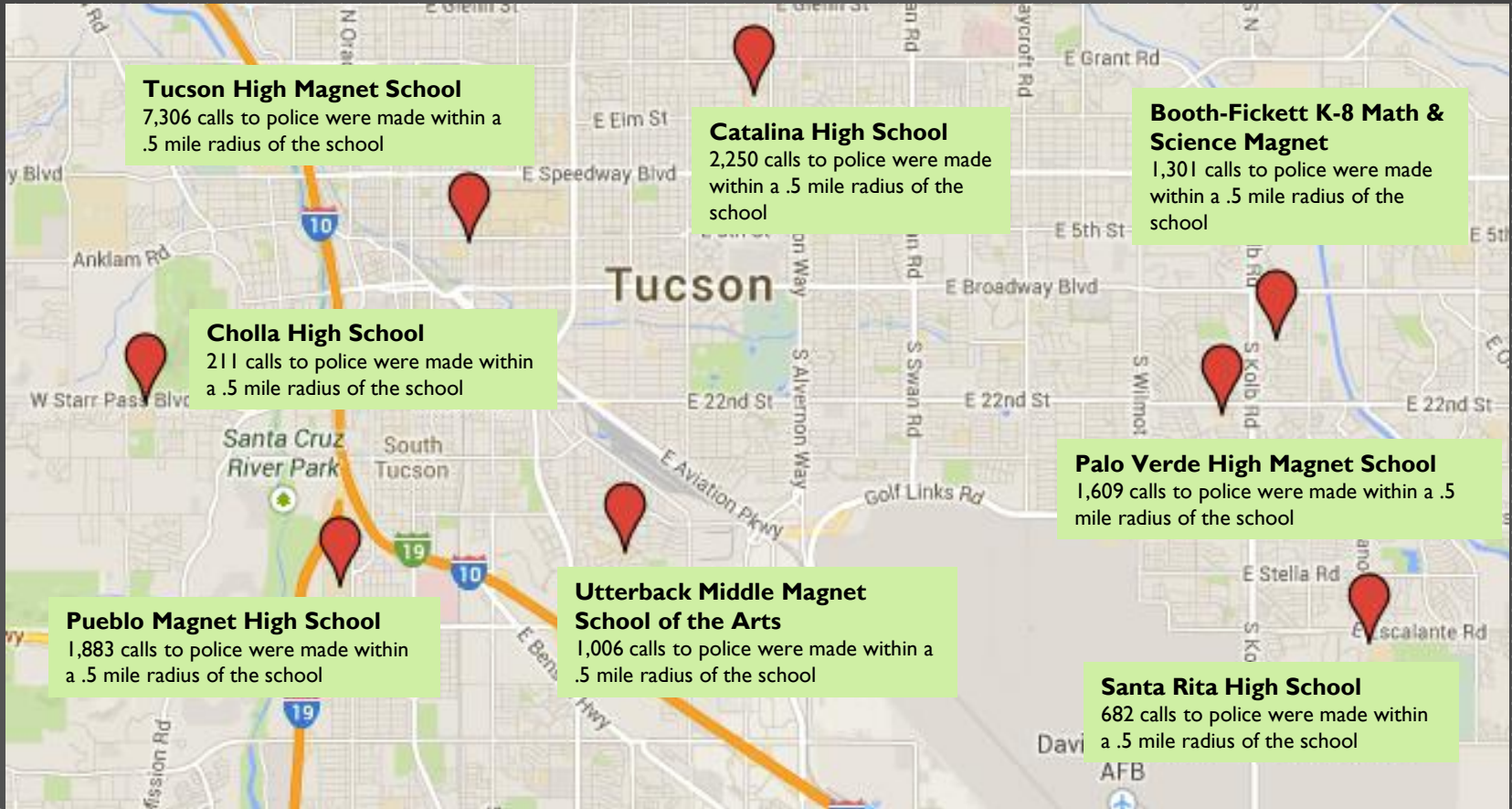
# ADE / TUSD SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM



# INTRODUCTION

- ▶ The School Safety Program was established by ARS 15-154 in 1994 for the purpose of placing School Resource Officers (SRO) on school grounds to contribute to safe school environments that are conducive to teaching and learning.
- ▶ Through comprehensive prevention and intervention approaches, School Safety Program funded officers maintain a visible presence on campus; serve as an available resource to the school community; and provide students and staff with Law-Related Education instruction and training.
- ▶ Officers develop positive interactive relationships with the students, the staff, parents and the community that they serve.
- ▶ This proactive, prevention-based program is cultivated through collaborative working partnerships between officers, school administration, teachers, and police.
- ▶ The expectation is that the officers will establish relationships and rapport with the internal and external stakeholders that will lead to positive outcomes.

# WHY NOW? IS THERE A NEED?



August 2013 – February 2014

# SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- ▶ **Goal 1 The School Safety Program contributes to an orderly, purposeful atmosphere, which promotes the feeling of safety conducive to teaching and learning.**
  - ▶ Objective 1: Staff feels that the school is safe, and administration supports and monitors the consistency of actions/strategies/policies that will improve or maintain that feeling of safety.
  - ▶ Objective 2: Students feel that the school is safe. They feel free from the threat of physical harm and verbal abuse. They feel they have an adult to go to with their safety concerns, and they feel their concerns are taken seriously and addressed.
  - ▶ Objective 3: Staff and students have a positive view of the SRO.
- ▶ **Goal 2 To teach Law-Related Education that promotes a safe, orderly environment, and good citizenship.**
  - ▶ Objective 1: The School Safety Oversight Committee ensures the continuous review and provision of instructional materials that promote a safe, orderly environment, and good citizenship.
  - ▶ Objective 2: Officers conduct 180 hours of Law-Related Education instruction per year. (e.g., Weekly office activity log)
  - ▶ Objective 3: Officers annually attend an Oversight Committee approved Law-Related Education academy/class to enhance their classroom skills and knowledge of appropriate LRE lessons.

# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) ROLE IN THE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM

- ▶ The SRO has three basic roles:
- ▶ 1. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/PUBLIC SAFETY SPECIALIST
  - ▶ The SRO is, first of all, a sworn law-enforcement officer. When necessary the SRO has the authority to intervene as a law-enforcement officer. Once order is restored, however, the SRO's other roles as law-related educator and role model are the more typical day to day roles.
- ▶ 2. LAW-RELATED EDUCATOR\*
  - ▶ Provides a minimum of 180 hours of Law-Related Education (LRE) per year that must include:
    - ▶ At least 80 hours of LRE classroom instruction to ongoing cohort groups of students
      - ▶ Three to five classrooms, six sessions per classroom within one quarter to the same group of students
    - ▶ At least 100 hours of universal LRE instruction
      - ▶ 60 hours or more of universal LRE classroom instruction
      - ▶ Up to 20 hours for LRE planning and preparation
      - ▶ Up to 20 hours for LRE instruction to school staff and school community
  - ▶ LRE does NOT include one-on-one or group counseling.
  - ▶ Collaborates with classroom teachers to integrate law-related education into their curriculum. The teacher must be present in the classroom during LRE classroom instruction.

*\*\* SROs funded through this grant are Law - Related Educators, thus may not implement the DARE or GREAT program.*

# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) ROLE IN THE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM CONT'D

## ▶ 3. POSITIVE ROLE MODEL

- ▶ As a positive role model for students and the school community, the SRO should:
  - ▶ Set limits by being clear about what is acceptable and what is not; letting students know the consequences of unacceptable behavior and the rewards of acceptable behavior.
  - ▶ Set an example by modeling how to handle stress, celebrate successes, and how to be a friend.
  - ▶ Encourage responsibility by helping students think through options and consequences of decisions, set personal goals, and develop plan to make desired changes.
  - ▶ Show respect by treating students with respect and expressing high expectations for them.
  - ▶ Always strive to be a positive role model because students learn from every observation of or interaction with the SRO.





# WHAT IS LAW-RELATED EDUCATION?

- ▶ Law-Related Education is the teaching of rules, laws, and the legal system that actively involves students to prepare them for responsible citizenship. It also provides instructions in legal rights, responsibilities, and the role of the citizen and requires students to practice the application of LRE in potential real-life situations. *(Adopted by the Arizona Center for Law-Related Education from the Virginia Institute for Law and Citizenship Studies.)*



# WHY LAW-RELATED EDUCATION?

- ▶ Law-Related Education is required as a component of the School Safety Program, because it
  - ▶ promotes problem-solving skills,
  - ▶ actively involves students, teachers and the community,
  - ▶ increases students' knowledge of the law, making them better informed citizens and consumers,
  - ▶ promotes positive self-image in students, and
  - ▶ encourages students to respect rules, laws, and persons in authority when exposed to a "balanced" view of "democratic" society.

# EXAMPLES OF CURRENTLY TAUGHT LAW-RELATED EDUCATION TOPICS

- ▶ iCivics.org: Encourage Civic Participation through Games
- ▶ Mock Trial: Educating Youth on the Judicial System
- ▶ We the People 101: The Citizen & the Constitution
- ▶ Project Citizen: Promoting Competent and Responsible Participation in Local and State Government
- ▶ Understanding the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment in the Life of a Teen

# FY 2014-2015 SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM AWARD RECIPIENTS

- ▶ Amphitheater Unified District
- ▶ Bisbee Unified District
- ▶ Chandler Unified District
- ▶ Deer Valley District
- ▶ Fort Thomas Unified District
- ▶ Kingman Unified School District
- ▶ Marana Unified District
- ▶ Mesa Unified District
- ▶ Paradise Valley Unified District
- ▶ Tucson Unified School District

\*Thirty Districts in total are award recipients. One hundred and twenty officers statewide were hired.

Content of this presentation provided by:

**SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM  
GUIDANCE MANUAL**

Revised February 2014

Arizona Department of Education

**TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Neighborhood Crime Statistics

August 13, 2013 – February 2014