Campbell County School District Armed Educator

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q: When did Wyoming school districts gain authority to allow trained staff to carry a firearm?

A: As an option to address school violence, the 2017 Wyoming Legislature adopted statute §21-3-132 "Possession of firearms on school property," granting school districts the authority to establish requirements for staff members to carry a firearm, if they so choose.

2. Q: Would staff members be forced to carry a firearm?

A: No, only employees who have interest and meet established criteria would be considered.

3. Q: Could any employee who wanted to carry a firearm be allowed to do so?

A: No, §21-3-132 requires school districts to establish an application and approval process, including training requirements approved by local law enforcement.

4. Q: How much training would be required for a staff member to carry a firearm?

A: §21-3-132 requires a minimum of 24 hours of initial training, and an additional 12 hours of annual training. However, through CCSD staff and public input, most believe that the training requirements should exceed the minimum required by the statute.

5. Q: Would the screening process include a psychiatric evaluation?

A: Although §21-3-132 does not require an evaluation, stakeholder input favors requiring applicants to undergo mental screening, should a policy be developed.

6. Q: How will employees be selected?

A: This has not been determined, but the process would have to meet or exceed all requirements established under §21-3-132.

7. Q: Could an employee authorized to carry a firearm ever lose their status?

A: Yes, §21-3-132 requires school districts to establish a process for revoking an employee's ability to carry a firearm.

8. Q: What would cause an armed employee to use their firearm?

A: The <u>only</u> approved situation that would initiate the use of the firearm would be to try to stop or impede an active act of school violence that is causing serious bodily injury or death of students and staff.

9. Q: How will parents know if Campbell County School District goes forward with approving a policy to allow qualifying employees to carry a firearm?

A: §21-3-132 requires the superintendent to notify parents and guardians of students enrolled in the district, including the rules and regulations governing possession.

10. Q: Will I know the identity of CCSD employees approved to carry a firearm?

A: No, §21-3-132 requires confidentiality of the employees approved to carry. However, the district must provide law enforcement agencies the names and location of all employees who have been approved to carry a firearm.

11. Q: Where would an employee's firearm be kept?

A: §21-3-132 requires that the firearm be kept on the person at all times or in a concealed biometric safe.

12. Q: What liability does the district carry by adopting a policy to allow employees to carry a firearm?

A: Initial research suggest current liability coverage would not change.

13. Q: What is the cost for implementing a policy to allow employees to carry a firearm?

A: This is unknown, depending on the substance of the policy, should it be adopted.