



Ypsilanti Community Schools Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office



Media Release

YCS and WCSO Announce Changes to the School Resource Officer Contract

July 23, 2020

Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross and Sheriff Jerry L. Clayton are jointly announcing the cancellation of the contractual relationship between the Ypsilanti Community Schools and the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office.

During the July 20, 2020 YCS school board meeting, a decision was made to officially terminate the long standing contract that provided one WCSO assigned School Resource Officer for the district. The action also included the elimination of the Ypsilanti Police Departments assigned School Resource Officer.

Superintendent Zachery-Ross explained that, "this decision does not reflect in any way the level of service previously provided or take away from the great relationship we have with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office." However, did explain that the decision is made based on three important considerations;

1. The impact of COVID-19,
2. The district's financial constraints, and
3. The changing values related to officers in schools.

"Understanding the current climate and budget implications, I fully support the boards decision to cancel the contract at this time," says Sheriff Clayton. "I am extremely proud of the partnership between YCS and WCSO. A relationship built on trust, mutual respect and a commitment to creating a nurturing and safe environment for our young people to learn, live and prepare for bright futures. Despite the ending of our contractual relationship, we will continue to partner in support of the families and employees of YCS."

Although the School Resource Officer will no longer be assigned to the district, the deputy position will not be eliminated but will be reassigned.

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