

Staff Report

Subject: 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement for School Resource Deputies
Author: Tim Callanan
Department: County Manager
Meeting Date: September 1, 2026
Item Description: Consideration to approve the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement between the Effingham County Board of Commissioners, Effingham County School District, and Effingham County Sheriff's Office for the continued operation and placement of School Resource Deputies (SRDs) within Effingham County schools.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement for School Resource Deputies and authorization for the Chairman to execute the agreement.

Executive Summary/Background: Effingham County, the Effingham County School District, and the Effingham County Sheriff's Office desire to continue the School Resource Deputy Program and establish the responsibilities of each party. The agreement provides for a minimum of seventeen (17) SRDs assigned to designated schools within the School District during the regular academic session. The SRD Program is intended to provide law enforcement resources and support to students, teachers, and staff, promote positive relationships between students and law enforcement, and enhance school safety.

Under the agreement, the Sheriff's Office will employ, supervise, equip, and provide vehicles for the SRDs, while the School District will provide workspace and other support at the assigned schools. For work performed under the agreement during the regular academic session, the School District will pay seventy-five percent (75%) and the County will pay twenty-five percent (25%) of SRD compensation and related costs as described in the agreement. The agreement expires December 31 of each year and automatically renews for successive one-year terms unless a party provides the required notice of non-renewal.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement for School Resource Deputies and authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement.
2. Do not approve the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement.
3. Provide staff with direction.

Recommended Alternative: Staff recommends Alternative 1 – Approval of the 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement for School Resource Deputies and authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement.

Other Alternatives: N/A

Department Review: County Manager, County Attorney, Effingham County Sheriff's Office

Funding Source: The agreement provides that the Effingham County School District will pay 75% and Effingham County will pay 25% of the compensation and related costs for SRDs performing work under the agreement during the regular academic session. The specific County budget account is not identified in the agreement.

Attachments: 2026 Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Effingham County School District, Effingham County, and the Effingham County Sheriff's Office for School Resource Deputies