



action now

SAISD Police Department

www.SanAntonioAlliance.org
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New Chief agrees to Weekly Meetings

Chief Rendon agreed to meet on a weekly basis with Alliance representatives to tackle ongoing Consultation issues, that were left unsettled when the last Chief left. Rather than dealing with what didn't happen in the past the group agreed to look to the future and work on the interests for the many concerns that have left the department in a very tight situation. Staffing and Officer assignments, mishandled overtime pay assignments, vehicle replacement and certification pay have been a huge topics for discussion. The department should be proud to know that as their only officially elected employee organization that represents them in Consultation is able to report on several proposals and items. Alliance representatives, Dispatcher-Cindy Janicke, Officer, Jesus Trujillo and Officer, Tony Martinez have done an excellent job of working with Chief Rendon to try to come to amicable solutions.

Staffing and Officer assignments

Staffing and Officer assignments were the main consultation issue all of last year, and has been a topic of discussion since the 2005-2006-school year. Providing a safe and secure environment for all our students and staff members is our number one goal. While some changes have been made, the Alliance Representatives and the Chief agree that we are experiencing a shortage of manpower and recruitment. While the department is implementing new hiring initiatives, the low starting salaries for police officers is not competitive with local law enforcement and other school district police departments. However, the Chief has stated that he has been working on an Officer Retention Strategic Plan with Superintendent Dr. Duron, and will be presenting this to the Alliance Reps. at the next weekly meeting. Everyone is hopeful that this will ease the overtime expenditures as well as the assignments. Currently the Reps. will be meeting with campus officers, administrators, campus staff, parents and key community members to get their input to help the Chief make a more informed decision before his plan is presented to the school board. They are asking you for your help by contacting them to gather this critical information.

New communications system

The Chief is currently working on obtaining grants that will fund the purchase of radios and/or a new communications system.

Vehicle Replacement Program

The Alliance fought hard last year for a district-wide vehicle replacement program. The work of the Alliance was a joint effort for employees from several departments, including food services, plant services, transportation, and the Police Department. Our collaboration and communication with the district administration and board members was successful in establishing a fund for the vehicle replacement program. This program has made it possible for the district to purchase five new patrol vehicles last year and another five new patrol vehicles this year. We will continue to do what is necessary to ensure that the district wide vehicle replacement program continues to receive the funding needed to keep our district vehicles in safe and proper operating condition.

Mandatory Leave

The "mandatory leave" that was required of most officers during the Winter Break these past two years will be changed for the 2008-2009 school year. Officers will not be mandated to take leave during these two weeks, and officers will have the option of working anytime during those two weeks.

Vests may become mandatory

Wear your vests. The Chief has approved the purchase of vests for all officers who are currently in need of one. The department pays for these valuable pieces of equipment in order to provide the best protection for our officers. It is important that all officers use these vests. The Chief also mentioned that the use of these vests may become mandatory in the near future.

SAISD Crime Stoppers Program

The Chief has proposed a "Crime Stoppers" program for our department and school district. He is very proud of this new initiative and is very confident in its benefits. Make sure to keep your ear to the ground and get all the details.

Upcoming Topics

Concerns and issues that randomly come up for discussion from the Police department are handled by Elda Flores (formerly Elda DeLaCerde), Field organizer for the Alliance. Some of the topics discussed are about the departments' efficiencies, policies and violations. Currently these are the topics of discussion:

- Status on the "take home vehicles"
- Changing "due process" for handling complaints/investigations on officers
- Training / Professional Learning

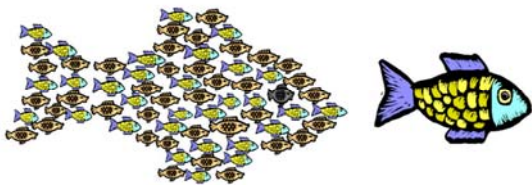
Join the Alliance Family

For a membership form, see your Alliance Rep or click here:

http://www.sanantonioalliance.org/Documents/MembershipForm_2007-08.pdf

Just complete the form and return it to the Alliance office via "pony" mail or via US Mail to San Antonio Alliance, 120 Adams St, SA, 78210.

(Under the Alliance by-laws, any SAISD non-administrative employee or other non-administrative individual whose position is directly or indirectly funded by SAISD is eligible for membership in the Alliance. Individuals who are employed at the level of assistant principal and above, and individuals who are employed at the level of assistant director and above are excluded from membership.)



TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

