

What could SPD do better?

Youth Engagement

The Sacramento Police Department supports a variety of programs to increase youth engagement and foster positive interactions with law enforcement. We strive to continually grow and support these programs as well as seek other opportunities to serve youth in Sacramento.

Criminal Justice Magnet School Academy

The Criminal Justice Academy is a four-year high school program structured as a “school within a school,” to prepare students for college and careers. The Sacramento Police Department currently assigns a full-time officer to four of our local high schools- Kennedy HS, CK McClatchy HS, Hiram Johnson HS and Grant HS. Almost 600 students are enrolled in the four programs. Academy students uphold a 2.0 GPA, 80% attendance rate, volunteer 50 hours a year and participate in academic and physical training. Academy cadets have high graduation and college entrance rates.

School Resource Officer Program

The Sacramento Police Department partners with both Natomas Unified School District (NUSD) and the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) to serve over 55,000 students in the City. The School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit is vigorously involved in the development, training and review of Comprehensive School Safety Plans for the campuses it serves. These efforts epitomize our ongoing commitment to the safety of students, faculty and the community at large.

In 2017, the State Assembly recognized the SCUSD SRO Unit’s restorative practices which have resulted in positive school enrollment, a decline in suspensions and expulsions and a decline in truancy. In addition to the improved attendance rates and a positive impact to campus atmosphere, the unit was also responsible for maintaining campus safety through the recovery of multiple firearms found on or destined for school campuses.

Sacramento Police Activities League

The Sacramento Police Activities League is a non-profit organization that makes a difference in the lives of at-risk youth in our communities. Each of the programs has at least one Sacramento Police Officer who serves as a coach and mentor and helps to foster positive relationships between law enforcement and the community.

Programs include:

- Boxing
- Football
- Rugby
- Mountain Biking

- Ski and Snowboard Team
- Yoga
- Fishing

Youth Cadet Program

The Youth Cadet program develops young people, 14-20 years old, who are interested in law enforcement careers including the specialty areas of Crime Scene Investigation, Dispatch, Information Technology, and Records. The program offers training and hands on experience in a variety of aspects of Law Enforcement.

Upcoming Programs

Additionally, the Department recently partnered with “Fight Crime, Invest in Kids,” to pilot a training program for officers and local youth which will deliver a curriculum entitled “Connecting Youth and Communities with Law Enforcement.” This training will cover topics such as Adolescent Brain Development, Diversity, Implicit Bias, De-escalation, and informed response to trauma as well as incorporate communication strategies and role-playing scenarios.

The Department has also partnered with the Twin Rivers Unified School District to help deliver the “OK Program” at several local middle schools. The program is designed to offer life skills and leadership role modeling to males from the ages of 12-18 based on a team mentorship model that brings together local police officers, school districts and faith-based communities.