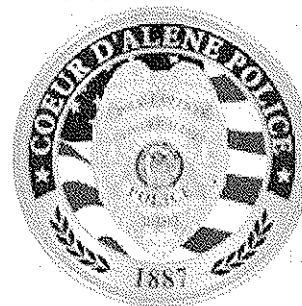


For Immediate Release
January 7, 2013
Contact: Sgt. Christie Wood
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To: Media

Chief Wayne M. Longo

Coeur d'Alene Police Department

We serve with pride, dedication, and excellence

Area schools are back in session today after a holiday break. Administrators and teachers are working diligently to return a sense of normalcy to the buildings after the recent stress of the Newtown, Connecticut incident.

Over the holiday break School District and Coeur d'Alene City officials met to continue earlier discussion on the importance of school safety.

A mutual decision was made to immediately fill the vacant Canfield Middle School Resource Officer position. The assignment of an officer to Canfield will bring the total number of officers in our high schools and middle schools to six.

The Police Department intends to use the six officers to also show a visible presence at the elementary schools.

Mayor Sandi Bloem supported the decision in her statement of "Since 1996 The City of Coeur d'Alene has enjoyed a long, successful, partnership with School District 271 focused on safety in our schools. With shared funding the Police Department has placed School Resource Officers in our high schools, and all middle schools with the current exception of Canfield Middle School. The safety of our children and our citizens is the number one priority for City and School District leaders. Starting January 7th our Police Department will use existing police personnel to be accessible, and visible at Canfield. The City and the School District are working together to fill the SRO position permanently by fall of 2013."

Superintendent Hazel Bauman also expressed support stating "We've appreciated the longstanding support of The Coeur d'Alene Police Department and the effective use of a School Resource Officer model in our school district. We are happy to begin immediate implementation of increasing our SRO presence not only at Canfield but across our district."

Sergeant Christie Wood
Public Information Officer
Coeur d'Alene Police Department

Laura Rumpler
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School District 271