

Questions and Answers: Folsom Cordova safety measures

How long has this been the District's practice? Is this a reaction to a specific incident or threat?

This has been the District's practice for the last six years. The practice grew from conversations with law enforcement, staff, and the Board of Education during ongoing emergency preparation.

How many staff members have been approved by the superintendent?

Specific numbers cannot be divulged to protect the safety of authorized individuals and the safety of students and staff members they seek to protect. Not all schools have an individual approved by the superintendent.

How are staff members selected/approved?

Per state law, the superintendent personally reviews any request from a staff member. The staff member must hold a current CCW and undergo the training necessary to obtain a valid CCW. The superintendent consults and communicates with law enforcement - including local police chiefs - and the Board of Education during the approval process. The request is considered within the context of the District's ongoing emergency preparation.

Do employees undergo any special training or screening beyond the CCW permitting process?

Employees who are approved have agreed to additional and ongoing training beyond what obtaining a CCW permit requires; however, all employees who have been approved in the past must provide proof to the superintendent when they have renewed their CCW permit.

Who is on the approved list?

We cannot identify any individuals or other details of this practice because we believe, in consultation with law enforcement, that doing so would create a potential threat against those staff members and facilities.

Why hasn't this practice been communicated to staff and families before?

We understand that staff and families will have many questions about this practice. We're addressing this publicly now to clarify rumors and misinformation about teachers carrying guns on campus that are circulating, and which we believe could be damaging to the trust the district shares with its students, families, and staff members.

We have coordinated this practice in close consultation with law enforcement to prevent any potential security threats against schools, students, or staff. The superintendent routinely consults with law enforcement on safety, planning, and best practices.

Where are the guns stored? Are they in schools?

We cannot discuss locations, individuals, or other details of this practice because doing so would create a possible threat against those staff members and District sites. Additionally, naming specific sites where approved employees work could make **other** sites vulnerable to a threat.

Who keeps track of where firearms are stored? Are there regular inspections?

The superintendent works routinely with law enforcement to review approved locations and best practices for safe storage and access. This includes consultation with law enforcement leadership, and school resource officers also are aware of locations, storage methods and approved employees.

How are you sure students cannot access/locate/obtain a weapon?

While we cannot discuss specifics, we work closely with law enforcement to make sure we are taking every measure and precaution to keep our schools safe at all times.

Do teachers carry firearms on campus/ on their person around kids?

No staff member is permitted by the superintendent to carry firearms on his or her person on campus during school hours.

Why can't you provide more specifics?

We understand that this is an emotional and personal issue for many, and we recognize that the community will have many questions about this practice. While we understand the value of transparency in building and maintaining trust, we cannot disclose details that would make any individuals or District sites a target.

Can you provide the CCWs and requests of employees who have been approved by the superintendent?

The District does not process CCW permits. We will not identify individuals who have been approved by the superintendent for this practice because doing so could create a threat against them.

Are there any limitations as to what employees will or won't be approved for this?

The superintendent screens each request individually, conducts additional background checks, and consults with law enforcement and the Board of Education.

Are there any limitations as to what kind of firearms employees are allowed to store? Can they store multiple firearms?

Only one firearm - a handgun - is permitted to be stored.

Are firearms at high schools?/What grade levels?

Again, we cannot discuss such details because doing so would create a possible threat against those staff members and District sites. Additionally, naming specific sites where approved employees work could make *other* sites vulnerable to a threat.

What about parents volunteering at the school? Or community members who use facilities during non-school hours? Will they be given approval?

The superintendent will not allow anyone - employees, parents, community members - to carry concealed weapons on his or her person during school hours. The superintendent would review on a case-by-case basis any request from an individual who uses our facilities during non-school hours but would not guarantee approval.