



Spring Lake Park – Blaine – Mounds View

Memorandum



To: City Administrators
From: SBMFD Leadership Team

Re: Fire Resource Officer, Outcomes and Summary
Date: May 10, 2019

Through April, the current SFRO (John Lindstrom) has accomplished a great amount. Below you will find the objectives of this position based on the original proposal; and what outcomes we have seen in the short 8 months of work:

- I. Enhance the relationship with the Spring Lake Park High School.
 - a. The H.S. and district make a point during every interaction with us to communicate their unwavering support and complimentary surprise of this position. The school's administration consistently markets its Career Readiness programs as progressive and innovative. This position provides a large piece of that innovation. The principal interacts with AC Zikmund through numerous avenues and this relationship is stronger than it has been in years. The FD has a presence at the high school on a weekly basis in addition to having John in the classroom. Mr. Lindstrom has also been able to communicate many of the FD resources and programs to those at the school where we would normally not have the time nor audience to do so.
- II. Enhance the relationship and increase involvement with the Opportunities in Emergency Care program.
 - a. This has been by far the largest outcome of the 8 months thus far as predicted. Due to this position we now have a Chief serving as the Board chair of the OEC Foundation, we support extracurricular practical skills with equipment/staff, have several students applying for summer internship programs, have several students that have joined our fire exploring post, and some of which who wish to pursue firefighting into the future. SBM staff now cross-staff OEC at the following events: weekly lab, mock extrication, trimester skills testing, state competition, HOSA competition, USA Cup, Blaine Festival, numerous parades, Homecoming, Fall Camp and Spring Camp. This interaction benefits both parties through enhanced training, networking, and a primary avenue of recruiting for the Department. The most impressive enhancement moving into the future is that Mr. Lindstrom has been able to produce and get approval for the addition of Firefighter I, Firefighter II, and Enhanced EMT to the school course directory. This will allow a predicted 16 students per trimester to be trained by John, alongside SBM and OEC staff to the same level as our entry recruits. To date, we have only been able to offer this on a limited basis to up to 4 students and only at

the Firefighter I level. In addition to other OEC classes, this allows students to graduate high school with EMR, EMT, FFI, FFII, HazMat Ops, NA-R, CPR Instructor certifications – eligible for 28 college credits and a value of over \$10,000.

- III. Provide an additional responder to daytime emergency calls
 - a. While Mr. Lindstrom only responds to calls on a limited basis, he has added critical staffing during school holidays and will be vital during the summer months. Summer represents a busier time of year with events, vacations, public outreach, and emergency calls. While conducting community outreach and education, he will also act as a primary responder like all of our full-time staff.
- IV. Supplement and support our Fire Exploring Program
 - a. Mr. Lindstrom has become an integral part of our Exploring Program. Acting in a near identical capacity to his daytime duties, John has assisted at over a dozen Exploring meetings. With new Advisors in the Post, he has been able to provide expertise in many areas that would not otherwise be able to be taught. Additionally he has been able to bridge the gap with our Exploring Post and the OEC Exploring Post like never before. This provides additional opportunities into the future with joint training, cross-certification, event involvement, and more. We view the Exploring Program as a primary recruiting avenue as well as a strong tool for staff/leader/instructor development in a unique setting. To date we have hired 4 Explorers onto the Department in just 4 years of existence.
- V. Support the CRR Division through community outreach and public education
 - a. The benefits of this aspect have not yet come to fruition with much of John's time currently dedicated to the High School. The summer months will be completely dedicated to CRR and we have a full slate already planned. As stated with Becky's position, there are numerous requests going unfulfilled and core programs that need redevelopment and revision. John's experience and skillset will suit the division very well this summer and every summer moving forward as the division experiences its busiest months of the year. John, like Becky, would spread his time and efforts to reflect our formula distribution as closely as possible. By nature of his position, more time will be spent in the school district of ISD#16 though OEC has students from Mounds View, Irondale, Fridley, Totino-Grace, Centennial, Blaine, Coon Rapids, and home schools.

NOTE: This position is pending an ongoing contract with ISD#16 and relies on the support of both the cities of SLP, Blaine, MV and the School District. Additionally, if over the next 4 months the pilot decreases in success, the Board of Directors and Managers/Administrators will be made aware.

SBMFD Leadership Team