



On Dec. 5, a contract was approved between Macomb Township and Chippewa Valley Schools, renewing the positions of two school resource officers at Dakota High School.

File photo by Alex Szwarc

Contract renewed for resource officers

By: [Alex Szwarc](#) | C&G Newspapers | Published December 17, 2019

MACOMB TOWNSHIP — What's not new is school resource officers within Chippewa Valley Schools.

What is new is having two each in Macomb Township and Clinton Township.

At the Dec. 5 Macomb County Board of Commissioners Records and Public Safety Committee meeting, a contract between Macomb Township and Chippewa Valley Schools was renewed for two school resource officers. The contract is for \$254,480.

The contract agreement is that the Macomb County Sheriff's Office will provide two school resource officers for the 2020-21 school year.

The district has utilized resource officers since the 2004-05 school year.

Chippewa Valley Schools Superintendent Ron Roberts said the district has had two resource officers on assignment in both Macomb and Clinton townships since the beginning of the 2019-20 school year.

"We want to always have a resource officer on each high school campus," Roberts said. "What we found was on some occasions, that officer would be called away from Dakota (High School) to deal with an issue at a middle or elementary school," he said.

The district added an additional officer in both townships for the 2018-19 school year.

The total cost of the positions will be split equally between Macomb Township and Chippewa Valley Schools.

The board meeting packet states that the school resource officers will provide enhanced safety and security for students, faculty and staff.

Another reason Roberts said the district wanted two resource officers in each township was to normalize the presence of officers.

"We really want them to be viewed as community servants and helpers," he said. "Previously, if there was one officer in a building, something had to be wrong, and we really wanted to move away from that."

In October, Macomb Township Supervisor Janet Dunn indicated that the board was requesting to continue the funding of an extra deputy for Dakota High School. The township board approved the request Oct. 23.

A November letter from Chippewa Valley Schools Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services Donald Brosky to the Sheriff's Office indicates the district's commitment to renewing the contract for two school resource officer positions provided to the district through the Macomb County Sheriff's Office.

Brosky wrote that school safety is the No. 1 priority.

"It is our belief that the continuation of this partnership between the district and Macomb County Sheriff's Office's school resource officers will enhance the safety of our students, staff and school community," he wrote.

The deputies in Macomb Township are Keith Fringer and Ralph Sauger, with detectives Josh Lundin and Adam Hackstock servicing Clinton Township.