

CITY OF SUNRISE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE - ANTHONY W. ROSA



August 14, 2018

Valued Parents, Guardians and Teachers of Piper High School:

As we are about to commence the 2018-2019 school year, I wanted to take this opportunity to welcome all the students, families, and faculty back to our great Sunrise Schools. Each new school year can be a time of excitement, anxiety and uncertainty for our students and families. I acknowledge the responsibility of the School Board of Broward County to provide a safe school environment, and it is my mission to give each of you my personal assurance that the Sunrise Police Department is working collaboratively with the School Board and is doing everything possible to protect your children while they attend their respective schools.

Last year, after the Parkland tragedy, I sent a letter to each parent highlighting the steps that the City of Sunrise and the Sunrise Police Department had already taken regarding the safety of your children. Our preparation did not begin in February of 2018. In addition to the collaboration between our schools and the entire Sunrise Police Department, our Mayor and City Commission have committed to having full-time School Resource Officers at every school for years prior to that tragic day.

Our School Resource Officer Program has a thorough and rigorous selection process. Only the finest officers become Sunrise Police School Resource Officers. Our officers are SWAT team members, former military members, and officers with experience and training in highly-specialized units. They receive specialized training in the latest tactics and are provided the finest equipment to handle any situation. At the same time, we have emphasized the role of the School Resource Officer as a mentor and positive role model for the students; in fact, we pride ourselves and the strong relationship our School Resource Officers have with the students and families. We believe they are much more than a police officer at a school.

Piper High School is very fortunate to have two highly trained and experienced School Resource Officers. Starting with Officer Gordon Crawford, he is an 18-year veteran of the police department. Officer Crawford is starting his second year as a School Resource Officer. He is also concurrently assigned to the department's Bicycle Patrol Unit. Officer Crawford was previously a SWAT Team member for six years and also part of our Mobile Field Force Unit. Officer Crawford seems to be partial to receiving department awards. Some of which are the Medal of Valor Award, two Life Saving Awards, Officer of the Year Award. Additionally, he is a four-time Officer of the Month Award recipient.

Piper High School's other School Resource Officer is Officer Jason Jolicoeur. Officer Jolicoeur is a 20-year police veteran. He is our newly selected School Resource Officer beginning this school year. Even though he is a new Sunrise Police School Resource Officer, Officer Jolicoeur's previous experience most certainly qualify him to hit the ground running in his new position. Officer Jolicoeur was previously a Flagler County Sheriffs Deputy where he was a part-time School Resource Officer and SWAT Team member. Afterwards, Officer Jolicoeur was a Special Agent with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement where he investigated homicides, child crimes and abductions, narcotics, gang investigations, and fraud cases. Officer Jolicoeur will certainly be a very valuable asset to Piper High School.

I am honored to serve as your Chief of Police. Protecting the students and staff at the school and providing you with peace of mind is paramount to me. Our dedication to your children will be more evident as we get to know each other. I would like to encourage everyone to check our department's Facebook and Twitter page for the most up-to-date information available about the Sunrise Police Department; furthermore, you will also be able to meet your School Resource Officers on Facebook or at www.sunrisepolice.org. Each officer has prepared an introduction for you and I encourage you to take a moment to meet and get to know Officer Crawford and Officer Jolicoeur. I look forward to having a great school year with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'A. Rosa'.

Anthony W. Rosa
Chief of Police



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