**Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Village of Oak Park,
Oak Park and River Forest High School District 200, and
Oak Park Elementary School District 97**
Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose of IGA

Why did you create this new IGA?

The physical and emotional safety of students and staff is the highest priority for our schools. There is a need to restore relationships between our agencies, and this IGA is a first step to establishing positive relationships and consistent communication among police officers, school staff and administration, students, and their caregivers. This collaboration will enhance the safety of our schools and promote school-based emergency planning.

What exactly does the agreement specify?

Key provisions include the following:

- The districts will provide the police chief with a list of administrators and their phone numbers. The list will identify the particular types of problems for which particular administrators are to be contacted.
- The police chief will provide the districts with the names and titles of a primary contact and two back-up contacts, who will have the primary responsibility for implementing the IGA on behalf of the police department.
- The police chief will select at least one threat assessment team representative from the police department to serve on each district's threat assessment team, as required by the School Safety Drill Act.

When does the IGA go into effect, and how long is the term of the agreement?

The IGA goes into effect on the date that the last entity approves the document. There is no end date; the agreement will remain in effect unless one of the parties takes action to end it.

Where can I read the IGA?

The IGA will be posted on the Village, District 200, and District 97 websites once the agreement has been adopted by all three governing partners.

Student/Police Implications

Does this mean you're reinstating police officers in the schools during the day?
No. This current IGA does *not* include establishing a permanent law enforcement presence in either the high school or District 97 schools. Rather, the focus of the IGA is on establishing clear channels of communication and ensuring that appropriate procedures are in place when cooperation between the agencies becomes necessary.

Our agencies have a shared interest in ensuring the safety of our schools, on the one hand, and explicitly disrupting the school to prison pipeline, on the other. We believe this can be accomplished by evolving our notion of what it means to work together to ensure safety and racial equity at the same time. To this end, the village's chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer participated in drafting the IGA.

What if a student commits or is believed to have committed an illegal act on school grounds or at a school-related activity?
The IGA details the procedures and protocols under which law enforcement officials may question or detain a student under age 18 on school grounds. These include notifying the student's parent or guardian; making reasonable efforts to ensure that the student's parent or guardian is present during the questioning or, if not, that specific school personnel are present; and making reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

Can the police search a student at school?
Yes. At the request of school officials, a law enforcement officer may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence (e.g., a weapon) that the particular student has violated or is violating the law. When feasible, the search should be conducted outside the view of others, including students; in the presence of a school administrator or adult witness; and by a certificated employee or law enforcement officer of the same sex as the student. School officials may conduct searches internally, in heightened safety cases.

What information can the districts and police share with one another about specific students?
State law requires a reciprocal reporting agreement between school districts and law enforcement regarding criminal offenses committed by a student. Sharing juvenile law enforcement records may occur *only* if the student has been arrested or taken into custody for specific offenses, such as possession of a controlled substance, possession of a firearm, threatening violence, etc., provided that the Village

Police Department or officer believes that there is an imminent threat of physical harm to students, school personnel or others who are present in the school or on school grounds.

The IGA designates which individuals, both within the district and the police department, may be privy to shared information. In addition, the information derived from the juvenile law enforcement records shall be kept separate from and shall not become a part of the official school record of that minor student and shall not be a public record.

Racial Equity Considerations

How was this IGA developed from a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) lens?
The creation of the new IGA was guided by the racial equity considerations brought forth by community members. The new IGA was carefully constructed to reflect these considerations. Furthermore, the Village's new chief DEI officer participated in conversations about the IGA to provide guidance on racial equity considerations. We are committed to continually evaluating the IGA from a racial equity lens once it is implemented as we understand that racial equity is a process and must be responsive to evolving needs.

Community Feedback

To honor our commitment to inclusive community engagement about this important topic as well as to comply with the intention of [105 ILCS 5/10-20.14](#), parent-teacher advisory committees will be engaged so that communication and feedback opportunities are available to stakeholders. Additionally, each organization will use available communication tools to solicit community feedback.