



Sheriff  
Dan Altena  
Sioux County Sheriff's Office  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

**8/10/18 12:00 pm**

The start of this coming school year marks the 9th year of the Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Our program currently serves seven schools in Sioux County; Western Christian High School, Boyden-Hull JR/SR High School, Boyden-Hull Elementary, Hospers Elementary (MOC), Hull Christian School, Spalding Catholic, and the Netherlands Reformed Christian School in Rock Valley.

This year we are pleased to announce the addition of Unity Christian High School in Orange City to our program, which will bring our number to eight participating schools.

Deputy Waylon Pollema is the Sheriff's Office SRO. He works diligently to provide a safe educational environment for every student while creating, maintaining, and building a good rapport with students, school administration, teachers, and staff. Deputy Pollema is committed to building relationships, trust, and respect; while enhancing school safety at each school.

The Sheriff's Office believes that proper selection and training of an SRO is essential. Deputy Pollema continues to receive yearly training from the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO), where he has reached the level of a practitioner. Deputy Pollema also receives yearly training from the Iowa Association of School Resource Officers (IASRO), where he is currently the President of the Board of Directors.

The SRO program was instigated when the sheriff's office saw an increase in mass school shootings nationwide. According to Sheriff Altena, "Even though SRO programs had been primarily associated with larger metropolitan city schools, we believed there was something we could, and should do for our schools to provide safety and security. Deputy Pollema has done a phenomenal job with the program. The students, faculty and parents strongly support him and the work we're doing through the program. It's been a very good thing for everyone."

We look forward to serving these schools this coming school year and for the foreseeable future.

(See more about our SRO program on our website: <http://siouxcountysheriff.com/sro.shtml>)

