

Lone Oak Independent School District

Janee' Carter, Superintendent • (903) 662-5427 • jcarter@loisd.net

Dear Lone Oak Community:

Schools across the country are being forced to prepare for the unthinkable – the potential of a mass school shooting. The news is full of incidents like Columbine, Newtown, Virginia Tech, Aurora, and so on. Schools, as “Gun Free Zones,” have been seen as “free fire zones” by troubled individuals. They knew that they would have no one firing back at them while they completed their goal of killing innocent and helpless students and staff.

The Lone Oak ISD school board witnessed the devastation and considered appropriate policies. The Board updated local policy, authorizing a School Safety “Defender” Program (TX Govt. Code 411.1901). Its purpose is to provide students, faculty and staff an armed self-defense option prior to the arrival of Law Enforcement in the event of an active shooter or “active killer” on campus. They have the right to carry a concealed handgun on school grounds.

The Defenders are ISD staff members who have passed each of the following requirements (and more):

1. Hand selected staff members.
2. Must have their Concealed Handgun License (CHL) / License to Carry (LTC).
3. Must pass bi-annual psychological exam with a 3 or higher and commit to annual School Safety Training.
4. Must qualify annually with the specific handgun and level 3 (or above) holster they will carry.
5. Must pass an annual and random drug test and an annual physical.
6. Must be trained in tactics for denying an intruder entry into a classroom or facility.
7. Must be approved by the school board annually.

The staff who make it through the training and gain final approval are volunteers. In order to protect them from becoming targets of an intruder, their names are confidential and are not to be released. I ask that names not be guessed at nor rumors passed in an attempt to protect these individuals.

Signs will be posted on our campuses which state, “**ATTENTION: LOISD STAFF ARE ARMED AND TRAINED TO PROTECT OUR STUDENTS.**” By providing the community this information and by placing signs up across the campuses, we are taking additional steps so that people know we are NOT an “easy target”. No students, parents nor most staff will be allowed to carry. Only those who have gone through the extensive training and met all requirements will be allowed to carry. Please continue to be aware that any gun rumored to be on campus or seen on campus should be reported immediately.

If you have further questions, please contact me at jcarter@loisd.net.

Respectfully,

Janee' Carter
Superintendent
Lone Oak ISD



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DEFENDER Guardian Program

Updated 7/29/21

DEFENDER SELECTION

1. The participants are hand selected from a pool of applicants that work for the district or are on the school board. Applicants must be approved by administration and the School Board EACH YEAR. The Defenders from the previous year will stay on the list and be reviewed each year in case a change is needed.
2. Must have LTC & personal 9mm handgun (prior to being selected for training)
3. Commit to training both long and short term.
4. Must pass a psychological exam with a 3 or higher performed by the District approved licensed psychologist.
5. Once a defender is no longer employed by LOISD or leaves the school board, they are not allowed to carry a gun on LOISD property.

Defender Requirements

Requirements:

- **Maintain good professional standing employment with Lone Oak ISD.**
- **Adheres to the LOISD Employee Code of Conduct.**
- **Maintain confidentiality from other employees, students, parents, and other community members.**
- **Take and pass LOISD annual and random drug testing. **district expense***
- **Take and pass LOISD Annual School Physical. **district expense***
- **Take and pass bi-annual psychological exam and score a 3 or higher. **district expense***
- **Hold valid Texas CHL/LTC to carry a semi-automatic firearm.**
- **Complete and qualify personal firearm used in district at an approved 3 day training in compliance of TX Govt. Code 411.1901. **district expense***
- **Complete ISD approved 1 day annual compliance training **district expense***
- **Complete ISD gun range practice at least once each semester. **district expense (50 rounds)***
- **Shall use only District-approved ammunition in firearms.**
- **Personal firearm (NO REVOLVERS) must use 9mm ammunition.**
- **Register/log serial numbers for all personal firearms carried on ISD property with Superintendent.**
- **Gun must be holstered in a Level 3**

