

05 The Deputy's Spotlight

December
2021

Who am I at a glance?

My name is Deputy Noel Sevilla but I want all my students and faculty to call me "Deputy Noel." I've been with Santa Rosa Sheriff's Office since 2018 and the WBMS school resource officer since the 2018-19 school year.

My law enforcement career started in 1993. Before moving to Santa Rosa County in 2018, I retired as a sergeant from a police agency in the mid-Atlantic region.

I'm able to build a great rapport with the students because I've coached for 13 years in several sports including baseball, softball, basketball, soccer and martial arts. Coaches are mentors and it's important to me to make those kind of connections with my students. In my free time, I still coach with the Miracle League, umpire baseball and referee basketball.

"Making Connections & Building Relationships"



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Use of Teaching Tools to Demonstrate Effects of Drugs and Alcohol

One of the strong foundations of a SRO is "teaching" (LEO & Counselor). It's important SRO's break down the barriers of being sometimes unapproachable, inflexible and callous individuals. A police officer in front of a classroom can change perceptions.

The effects of drugs and alcohol is a long-time topic of conversations in schools. A teacher can only convey so much in a lecture, so it's important to use teaching tools. Last school year, I obtained an AAA grant and purchased "Drunk Busters" simulation goggles. Teaching tools along with a strong lesson plan can make learning enjoyable and as realistic as possible.

I asked our PE coaches if I could provide the "Drunk Busters" goggles lesson and they were happy to help. First, it's important to explain that a drug (and alcohol) is any substance that effects the way the mind and body functions. Drugs also effect one's motor skills, perception of time and one's judgement. These goggles change visual perceptions making hand-to-eye coordination and balance increasingly more difficult.

During the lesson, volunteers are asked to do simple tasks such as play catch, walk a straight line, balance on one leg and count. These are normal everyday tasks, easy hand-to-eye-coordination skills. Then students are asked to do the same tasks but using "Drunk Busters" goggles. One will quickly realize artificial impairment with these goggles, making these tasks quite difficult.

The students enjoyed the lesson and observed how impairment can make an every-day task extremely difficult. I got positive feedback from the PE teachers. They were also able to laugh a little.



Santa Rosa County
Sheriff's Office



Ending the Silence

“End the Silence” or “Break the Stigma” is a campaign created by the National Alliance for Mental Illness or **NAMI**. Mental health/illness was once a taboo is now an open topic for school discussions and training. Students receive education in science class.

Teacher and staff receive Youth Mental Health First Aid training. School Resource Officer receive Crisis Response Training. The purpose of the training to recognize students in crisis and then provide and direct students to the appropriate resources.

Statistically, mental illnesses doesn't discriminate based on age, gender or ethnicity. 1 in 5 US adults experience a mental illness. 1 in 20 US adult experience serious mental illness and 17% of youth (age 6-17) experience a mental health disorder.

Its important to notice and acknowledge the warning signs:

- Feeling sad and withdrawn
- thoughts/plans of self-harm or ending ones life
- overwhelming anxiety
- significant weight loss or gain
- drastic mood changes
- audible/visual hallucinations,
- change in sleeping patterns.

In the past 2 years in southern Santa Rosa Co, we've lost 4 students to suicide. Also once taboo, we are encouraging student to talk about those feelings and find the root.

Sometimes, parents first learn about their child's feeling of anxiety, depression or suicide ideation from the school. However you do learn, open those lines of communication with your child. Also be open to the recommendations of counseling and treatment. The schools has many resources to provide but also look at outside resources. *(Statistics provided by NAMI)*

WBMS TEAM

Who are we?

Victor Lowrimore-Principal

Kimberly Rankin-Asst/Principal

Tyler Stokes-Dean of Students

Annette Edwins-Guidance Counselor

Retha Paugh-Guidance Counselor

Dale Perkins-Military Life Counselor

Noel Sevilla-School Resource Officer

Robin Prinzel-Attendance

Linda McClelland-Guidance Reception

Mari Hebert-Dean Reception

Kathy Adams-Bookeeping

Wanda Pearcey-Front Office

Tammy Weidenhamer-Front Office

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This Month's Q&A Tips from Deputy Noel

Q: Lately I've noticed the bathrooms in the 300 and 400 halls get really messy. What should I do if I see a someone messing it up?

A: Great question, You can do one of two things. First you can immediately tell your teacher when you get back your class. The teacher will call the front office. Or you can come straight to the front office and tell the front desk. Your teacher and front desk are going to ask if you know the student. Give them that information or we can check the cameras to see who was there.

Santa Rosa SpeakOut

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Reasons to call SpeakOut:

- WEAPONS AT SCHOOL
- DRUGS
- GANG ACTIVITY
- BOMB THREATS
- GRAFFITI
- FIGHTING
- BULLYING
- DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY
- THEFT
- STATEMENTS TO HARM SELF OR OTHERS

REMAIN ANONYMOUS - YOUR NAME IS NEVER ASKED

437-STOP

DOWNLOAD THE "PS TIPS" APP BY ANDERSON SOFTWARE