How Security Services Education Support Professionals Make Public Schools Great for Every Student

Security services professionals make public schools great by ensuring a safe school environment for all. Security services jobs have become more challenging, and our responsibilities have dramatically increased. An important role we have on a daily basis is to counsel or just be a friend to the students with whom we interact.

We have a clear understanding of not only security techniques, but also the unique nature of the school population we are working with. We are drug and substance, firearm and weapons experts. On a wider level, school security professionals are active in designing and implementing security policies and crisis response plans.
WE KEEP STUDENTS AND STAFF SAFE.

WE WORK TO PREVENT CRIME.

WE SAFEGUARD SCHOOL GROUNDS AND PROPERTY.

Fast Facts about NEA’s Security Services ESP Members

46% work at senior high schools; 23% at middle or junior high schools; 16% at preschool, kindergarten, or elementary schools; and the remainder at multiple levels or district central offices.

41% of us work with special education students.

81% work full-time.

54% are male.

79% are married.

Our average age is 51.

Workplace Conditions and Issues

Sixteen percent of security professionals do not have a job description. Among those who do have one, 17 percent think it does not accurately describe what we do.

Forty-five percent have no say in our job descriptions. Fifty-two percent are asked to perform duties outside of our job descriptions.

Security professionals need clearly defined legal authority and jurisdiction, on and off school property.

We are concerned about the contracting out of our work. Seventeen percent of NEA ESP members report that security services are being contracted out in their districts.

Security professionals must have access to appropriate job training, since we continually face new security problems. We need to participate in creating good security and secrecy policies because we deal with confidential information about students, staff, and parents.

We would like better wages and chances for promotion and advancement, opportunities for professional development, in-service training, and freedom to do our jobs the way we think is best.

NEA’s Security Services Members Are:

Well-trained. Fifty-six percent of us have attended at least some college. We meet specific job requirements such as certifications (37%), licenses (28%), or special courses (43%). As part of our jobs, 39 percent of us take examinations or courses on a regular basis.

Committed. On average, security services professionals have been working as ESPs for 10 years. Eighty percent of us plan to stay in our field, and 58 percent plan to keep our current positions until retirement.

Active in the school community. Sixty-eight percent of us live in the school districts where we work. Forty-four percent have supported activities of a parent organization. Twenty-nine percent have volunteered to read books to students. Twenty-eight percent have volunteered to teach or support art or musical activities. Fifty-eight percent of us have spent our own money to purchase food or school supplies for students.

Focused on school safety. Seventy-four percent of us have intervened to stop school violence such as harassing, threatening, or intimidating others. Seventy-one percent have intervened to stop bullying behavior in school.

We’re National Education Association

Visit us on the Web at www.nea.org/esphome

For additional information, please contact:

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Security Services Jobs Include:

Security Workers
Guards
School Resource Officers
Nonmanagerial Supervisors

One Education Workforce
SERVING THE WHOLE STUDENT