

MEET OFFICER BUDDENHAGEN

PEWAUKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SRO

The Pewaukee School District, in collaboration with the Village of Pewaukee Police Department, selected Officer Julie Buddenhagen as its first-ever School Resource Officer (SRO) this past June. Officer Buddenhagen began working on campus in August and is now a familiar face to staff and students. Her office is located in Pewaukee High School, but she serves all four schools.

A member of the Village of Pewaukee Police Department for the past 14 years, her experience included specialized training and experience as the lead officer for the department on Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) since 2010. She is also one of only a handful of officers in Waukesha County trained as a Forensic Interviewer. She was also recently named Investigator of the Year for a Wisconsin ICAC Affiliate by the state Department of Criminal Investigation.

So, what is her role on Pewaukee's campus and what does she want district stakeholders to know about her? Quite simply, it's in her new title. She's here to be a resource to all.

"I walk around all the buildings on campus to ensure the staff and students are safe," said Officer Buddenhagen. "But, it's also about building relationships

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with the kiddos and letting them know I am here if they need anything. And, I want them to know, just because they see a police officer on campus, doesn't mean they're in trouble!"

When trouble arises, she does have a job to do and that means performing police work - investigating, questioning, filing reports and at times, handing out citations. Another important facet of her police work - and why she's such a valuable asset to our campus - is her willingness to educate staff and students.

"I'm here to help educate staff and students on how to keep themselves safe," said Officer Buddenhagen, who recently led the Parent Night on Cyberbullying and Social Media at Horizon Elementary. "Any time we use the internet or cell phones, there's obviously concerns about online predators or putting information online that other people can get. We want to make sure everyone's safe and cautious with what they're posting online."

"Officer Buddenhagen is someone we have worked with extensively, so we are thrilled to add her experience, training and passion to collaborate more closely with our students, staff and parents," said Mike Cady, PhD - Pewaukee's Superintendent of Schools. "She has been a tremendous addition to our team and an enormous resource to staff and students."

