



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEWS RELEASE

City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

For Immediate Release: April 15, 2009

Contact: Alex Fryer, (206) 684-8358 or (206) 941-5931 (cell), alex.fryer@seattle.gov

Mayor Nickels introduces middle school emphasis team

Seattle police officers join five schools as part of youth violence prevention initiative

SEATTLE - Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels today introduced the four Seattle police officers assigned to middle schools as part of the Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative.

The officers will focus on crisis intervention, guidance, and mentoring. They will wear “soft” uniforms – knit shirts with the Seattle Police Department logo – and serve at Aki Kurose, Madrona K-8, and Denny. One officer will split time between Meany and Washington. They begin their assignments this week.

“We know that middle school can be a difficult time for young people, and we want to help. This partnership between the city of Seattle and Seattle Public Schools puts four officers in our schools to provide a guiding hand and an open ear – with a goal of preventing violence among our youth,” said Nickels.

“Schools are a reflection of the larger community and it is the collective responsibility of the community to provide for the safety and well-being of our children,” said Superintendent Maria L. Goodloe-Johnson, Ph.D. “I applaud the city of Seattle for its commitment to partner with us for the benefit of our students. We are proud to have these four middle school emphasis officers join our Seattle Public Schools team.”

Biographies of the four officers:

Detective D. “Cookie” Bouldin has been with the Seattle Police Department for 28 years. Bouldin’s assignments have included Youth Outreach detective, South Precinct Community Police Team officer, and patrol officer in Seattle’s North, East, West and South Precincts. In addition to her regular duties, Bouldin manages a chess club and an anti-violence workshop at Rainier Beach Library, the African American Academy and the Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club. Other successful programs Bouldin has started include a reading club, an arts & crafts club and a Sudoku club.

Officer Nicholas Carter is a graduate of Franklin High School in Seattle, and Portland State University, where he earned a B.S. in Economics in 1991. He worked as a civilian employee with the Seattle Police Department for six years prior to becoming a police officer in 1999. Carter worked as a patrol officer in the South Precinct serving the Rainier Beach, Rainier Valley and Beacon Hill neighborhoods. Carter also served as an instructor for the department’s Community Police Academy and has worked with the Seattle Public Schools’ truancy program and various “Seattle Team for Youth” projects.

-more-

Officer Samuel Braboy attended the University of Washington and later enlisted in the U.S. Army. While in the military, he performed duties as a military police and chief investigator. Braboy joined the Seattle Police Department as an officer in June 1992 and has worked in both the South and Southwest Precincts. He has worked extensively in the schools in south and southwest Seattle as a school emphasis officer. In addition to performing his police duties in and around the school, Braboy taught “*Options, Choices, and Consequences*” to hundreds of middle and high school students.

Detective Al Lebar has been with the Seattle Police Department since 1979. His initial 17 years were spent in patrol in the South Precinct. Lebar was then assigned as a school emphasis officer and worked for two years in the middle and high schools of the South Precinct. In 1998, he worked on an educational project dealing with dating and domestic violence that led to the development of a course called “*Relationships & the Law.*” In 2006, he joined the Juvenile Treatment Court.

The Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative focuses on about 800 children who are at highest risk of perpetuating violence or becoming victims. The initiative seeks to help young people at difficult points in their lives:

- Re-entering society from state detention programs.
- Arrested for crimes but released because they don’t meet the admission criteria for county detention.
- Middle school truants and students at risk of suspension.
- Victims of violence and their friends and relatives who may seek to retaliate.

The city of Seattle signed a one-year, \$400,226 contract with the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle to provide outreach workers and other services for at-risk youth in the Central Area. Outreach workers will be deployed in the Central Area this week and the Urban League will begin accepting youth for screening and referral today.

The city is seeking community partners in southeast and southwest Seattle to run outreach networks and referrals in those neighborhoods.

The City Council appropriated \$8 million for the Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative in the 2009-2010 budget. A Council review of the initiative is under way and Council action is expected on April 27. The goal of the initiative is to decrease youth violence by half. To learn more, visit this Web site:

<http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/issues/youthInitiative/>

Get the Nickels Newsletter and the mayor’s inside view on transportation, public safety, economic opportunity and healthy communities. Sign up at mayor.seattle.gov