

RECEIVED

FEB 10 2021
3:15 PM
CAO

GLENN ZIEMER, Chair – First District
ERNIE BRANSCOMB, Second District
GINGER CAMPBELL, Third District
NICHOLAS KOHL, Fourth District
SCOTT BINDER, Fifth District



LORA CANZONERI, At-Large
RICH AMES, At-Large
SEAN ROBERTSON, Fire Chiefs Assoc.
WILLIAM HONSAL, Sheriff's Office
JUSTIN ROBBINS, Vice-Chair - Alternate
EDDIE MORGAN, Alternate

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

The Humboldt County Citizens' Advisory Committee on Measure Z Expenditures is now accepting applications for funding. Measure Z, Humboldt County's Public Safety/Essential Services Measure, is a half-cent sales tax, passed by the voters of Humboldt County during the November 2014 general election.

The Advisory Committee meets on each Thursday in March to review applications and will make recommendations to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in April.

Applications for funding must be filed with the County Administrative Office BY 5:00 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 15, 2021. Postmarks are not acceptable for meeting this deadline.

Agency Name:

Fortuna Police Department

Contact Person/Title:

Casey J. Day / Chief of Police

Mailing Address:

PO Box 545

Phone Number:

707-7257550

City:

Fortuna

Zip code

95540

Email address:

cday@ci.fortuna.ca.us

1. Amount of Measure Z Funding Requested for FY 2021-22: \$ 190,922.95

2. Entity Type:

- Humboldt County Department
- Contract Service Provider to Humboldt County
- Local Government Entity
- Private Service Provider
- Non-Profit Service Provider
- Other (Describe Below)

Other:

3. Describe how the scope of your proposal fits the intent of Measure Z. Specifically, how will it maintain and improve public safety and essential services, as described on the previous page? (750 character limit)

Maintaining continued integration of the Fortuna Police Department ' s School Resource Officer (SRO) within the Eel River Valley schools, is vital and will go well beyond routine safety improvements. Along with the increase to public safety and reduction of violence in schools, SRO ' s build positive and influential relationships with students. SRO ' s are an important resource for students, teachers, and administrators who seek to solve problems creatively and avoid escalation of incidents which may otherwise go unaddressed. SRO ' s help infuse the overarching violence-prevention message and play a significant role in protecting our schools. Truancy is also reduced and response times to critical incidents on campus are dramatically improved.

4. Please provide a brief description of the proposal for which you are seeking funding. (1500 character limit)

The placement of the Fortuna Police Department ' s SRO within the Eel River Valley Schools has historically been a community commitment supported by Measure Z funding. Since ensuring the safety of our children begins with local resources, the City of Fortuna is seeking continued funding from Measure Z to cover costs associated with the integration of the SRO with the Eel River Valley schools which include: salary, benefits and equipment costs. The SRO serves all High Schools and Elementary Schools within the Eel River Valley and focuses on the important job of finding ways to protect our students. Local collaboration and funding support from Measure Z will enable our community to uphold our promise to keep our students safe.

5. How have you developed a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, for your proposal to carry on without reliance on future Measure Z funds? (750 character limit)

The City ' s prior revenue enhancing strategies were negatively impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The City of Fortuna continues to work toward future revenue enriching strategies despite Covid-19 related challenges. Strategies include: City fee increases, staff restructuring, and a continued effort to build and solidify sales tax revenue by making Fortuna an attractive venue to locate or re-locate businesses. Additionally, the City is always looking for opportunities to establish public and private partnerships. Although fee increases and sales tax revenues were areas most notably impacted by Covid-19, staff restructuring has been an area of concentration. The removal of the office supervisor position is the most recent example.

6. If this request is for the continuation or expansion of an existing program/service, what is the current source of funding for that program/service? (500 character limit)

The School Resource Officer position has been funded by Measure Z since 2017. It is currently funded by Measure Z.

7. If you are awarded Measure Z funds, how do you plan to leverage these funds to secure additional grants, contributions or community support? (500 character limit)

The grant request will continue the traditional funding of one full time police officer assigned as a School Resource Officer to schools located in the Eel River Valley. The City ' s General Fund will be leveraged for management, benefits, equipment, etc. to support the SRO position.

The addition of a sworn police officer position assigned as an SRO will give the FPD increased opportunities to obtain various, local, state and federal grant funding for monies associated with youth programs.

8. Will the proposal require new or expanded activity on the part of another entity to be fully functional and effective? If so, name the entity and describe what participation would look like. (750 character limit)

No

9. Are there recurring expenses associated with this application, such as personnel costs?

No Yes

If Yes, detail those expenses here: (500 character limit)

See attached FY2021-22 Budget Estimate

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS - Be sure to include the following with your application

Prior Year Results: If your request is a continuation of a program funded with Measure Z in prior fiscal years, please provide the results of implementation. (one page maximum)

Program Budget: Please utilize the template provided on the following pages. This will need to be updated if your agency is approved for funding.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above statements and all attachments are true and correct.

Date: 02/09/2021

Signature: Casey J. Day

SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETE APPLICATION TO:

Humboldt County Citizens' Advisory Committee on Measure Z Expenditures

c/o County Administrative Office * 825 Fifth Street, Suite 112 * Eureka, CA 95501-1153 * cao@co.humboldt.ca.us

Humboldt County Measure Z Advisory Committee • Fiscal Year 2021-22 Application for Funding

School Resource Officer - FY2021-22 Budget Estimate

	FY 21-22 Proposed Amount	FY 20-21 BOS Approved Amount	Note
Total Employee Pay	\$ 76,021.69	\$ 74,699.00	Base Pay plus incentives (including POST Cert, Residency, Uniform, Holiday Pay, Longevity, SRO special assignment pay)
Total Overtime Pay	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Total Employee Benefits	77,401.26	70,236.00	Medicare, Health Insurance, Retirement, Workers Comp
Total Personnel Cost	\$ 168,422.95	\$ 159,935.00	
Overhead and Occupancy Costs (~10%)	\$ 12,500.00	\$ -	Kept at \$12,500, amount same as approved in previous years cycle
Mandated POST Training	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Total Operating Costs	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	
Supplies	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	Fuel, general office supplies, paper, files, stickers, etc.
Total Consumable/Supplies	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	
Travel	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	Travel Costs related to training for SRO Officer
Total Travel Costs	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	
Total Employee Cost	\$ 190,922.95	\$ 162,435.00	

CITY OF FORTUNA POLICE: SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES
Attachment 1 – Proposal Narrative

The Fortuna Police Department is very proud of the collaboration and positive working relationships we have fostered with allied county agencies. The Fortuna Police Department works very closely with the Humboldt County Sheriffs' Department, Humboldt County District Attorney's Office, Mental Health, County Probation and countless other allied county agencies. Upon inception of Measure Z, the City Finance Department estimated that Measure Z would generate roughly \$1,000,000 per year within the City Limits of Fortuna. The City of Fortuna remains the fastest growing incorporated city in Humboldt County. Fortuna's population has increased by over 16% in the past 20 years and the police department has seen the total number of calls for service almost double in the past fifteen years, from roughly 11,000 CFS in 2005 to nearly 24,000 CFS in 2020. With a city population of nearly 13,000, the City of Fortuna serves as the "hub" of the Eel River Valley as the major shopping and business center for the area. Currently the FPD has a sworn Police Officer assigned as a full-time School Resource Officer, funded by Measure Z. This position serves as a resource for all of the high schools and elementary schools in the Eel River Valley and is based out of the Fortuna Union High School, where FUHS has provided a long term working office space for the SRO. The SRO services schools in an area of approximately 100 square miles, which includes the communities of Fortuna, Rio Dell, Scotia, Loleta, Hydesville, Carlotta, and Ferndale. Altogether, our SRO provides services for over 4,200 students in the Eel River Valley.

In July 2017, The Fortuna Police Department selected Officer Lindsey Frank as the Measure Z funded School Resource Officer for the Eel River Valley (ERV), a position she still holds today. SRO Frank has attended specialized training and has made outreach to every Elementary, Middle and High School in the ERV. Since 2017, Officer Frank has made a direct and impactful difference with ERV schools and has followed through with a 2018 assessment process which was completed to determine how to provide the best services to all of the schools using a custom approach to fit each school. Officer Frank has attended PTA meetings, School Board meetings and has met with Teachers, Administrators and Staff to provide the needed resource for our schools. The Covid-19 pandemic did not slow Officer Frank's efforts in 2020, and in fact, her service as a SRO was even more crucial. SRO Frank assisted with bridging the gap between in-person and distance learning. Officer Frank utilized distance learning times to restore district programs and property and initiated a pen pal program with students who were isolated by distance learning for long periods of time. During in-person sessions, the SRO's assisted with school safety programs which proved to be invaluable. Officer Frank received a number of calls from allied agencies and their SRO's who sought to identify projects and programs that she was working on during 2020 so that they could be replicated in other jurisdictions. Her efforts were heavily recognized in 2020 by the press and media and also by her Police Chief, school officials, and the students being served. The response from all schools in the ERV has been overwhelming in their appreciation and support of SRO Frank, especially during the 2020 school year, which was challenged by Covid-19. The FPD are praised regularly for the differences she is making in the lives of students. The Veterans of Foreign Wars recognized Officer Frank in 2020 for being a positive change agent and role model in the lives of students and children throughout the Eel River Valley.

SRO Frank has accomplished a great deal in the last year as the SRO, which will be highlighted in **Attachment #2 Prior year Results**. SRO Frank is a "go to" resource for all ERV schools and is truly a mentor to all students from grades K to 12. From being present daily in the schools, attending school events, starting new educational programs, parental assistance programs, making schools safer by providing an armed uniformed presence, drug intervention and enforcement and conflict counselling, Measure Z funding for this position has absolutely made a huge positive difference in the lives of youth in the ERV.

The cost to continue to provide this sworn police officer as the ERV School Resource Officer with salary, benefits and outfitting, is approximately \$182,435.22 per year. This request does not include any additional discretionary payment for the PERS unfunded liability, only the employer normal cost and required employer contribution.

The Fortuna Police Department hopes to keep this vital position in place and looks forward to continuing this relationship with the County and Measure Z, making all of Humboldt County and our Eel River Valley Schools a safer and better place to live, learn and enjoy.

CITY OF FORTUNA POLICE: SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MEASURE Z EXPENDITURES
Attachment 2 – Prior Year Results

The Fortuna Police Department was very fortunate to receive funding through Measure Z for fiscal year 2020 / 2021. Measure Z funding was provided to the City of Fortuna to assign a sworn police officer as a School Resource Officer for the Eel River Valley, which encompasses over 100 square miles and serves over 4,000 students. With Measure Z funding, a Fortuna Police Officer has been assigned as an SRO since July 8, 2017.

Officer Lindsey Frank is a highly trained School Resource Officer and has held the position of SRO since July of 2017.

As the 2020/2021, school year began, SRO Frank provided outreach to all of the schools in the Eel River Valley, and had meetings with Teachers and Administrators to conduct an assessment on each school's needs and how to deliver the best service to every school, just as she had done the previous year. The Covid-19 pandemic did not slow Officer Frank's efforts, and in fact, her service as a SRO was even more crucial. SRO Frank assisted with bridging the gap between in-person and distance learning. Officer Frank utilized distance learning times to restore district programs and property and initiated a pen pal program with students who were isolated by distance learning for long periods of time. During in-person sessions, the SRO's assisted with school safety programs which proved to be invaluable. Officer Frank received a number of calls from allied agencies and their SRO's who sought to identify projects and programs that she was working on during 2020 so that they could be replicated in other jurisdictions. Her efforts were heavily recognized in 2020 by the press and media and also by her Police Chief, school officials, and the students being served. The response from all schools in the ERV has been overwhelming in their appreciation and support of SRO Frank, especially during the 2020/2021 school year, which was challenged by Covid-19. The FPD are praised regularly for the differences she is making in the lives of students. The Veterans of Foreign Wars recognized Officer Frank in 2020 for being a positive change agent and role model in the lives of students and children throughout the Eel River Valley. SRO Frank has embraced the role of being a mentor to our youth; SRO Frank has seen a dramatic increase in working with school staff by mentoring and counselling students that suffer from mental health issues.

SRO Frank assists the schools with classes from K to 12 on issues of Street Safety, School Safety, Drugs, Anti-Bullying and the effects of alcohol and drugs use in teens. SRO Frank's position is instrumental in assuring organized training for active shooter situations and coordinating with schools, local law enforcement, sheriff's office, fire and EMS. SRO Frank **responded to actual lockdowns on school campuses during the prior year and kept everyone calm and safe.** SRO Frank has been instrumental in thwarting REAL threats to schools. SRO Frank's position is vital in preventing tragedy and keeping our youth safe.

SRO Frank has identified, investigated and arrested students selling drugs. She provides an armed uniformed police presence in ERV schools but is also approachable, a mentor, counsellor and role model to students and youth. She is present at most school sporting events and assemblies and interacts with students on a daily basis. SRO Frank is serving as a guiding force for our youth, knocking down barriers and negative perceptions of law enforcement and creating a safe environment for the students in the ERV. It is vital to the entire Eel River Valley that this position continue into the future.



Fortuna Union High School District


Fortuna High School

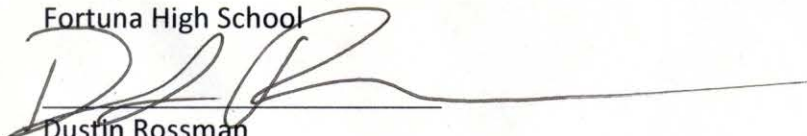
379 12th Street
Fortuna, CA 95540
707-725-4461 Fax: 707-725-5511
www.fortunahigh.org

To whom it may concern:

The schools in the Eel River Valley have been lucky in the past few years to have the services of a Student Resource Officer. The officer has been invaluable when it comes to the welfare of our most at risk students. Services include things like home visits for truant students, welfare checks on students in CWS situations, and is a presence on local campuses building great public relations between students and law enforcement. Being at a high school, we are frequently in need of assistance by law enforcement for different situations that arise. Before we had the SRO position these situations required us to call an officer off patrol, and thus stretched thin the resources of local law enforcement to maintain the safety of the community at large. Given the current in Humboldt County with children facing high ACES scores, increasing substance abuse of parents, and other increasing traumas taking place in the home with quarantines from Covid, the need for schools to have an SRO is higher than ever. Having one person dedicated to serving the needs of students in our area allows that officer to build relationships with students, families, and school personnel. One of the key components of dealing with students experiencing trauma is clear, consistent, accountability. Knowing the officer that they are talking too allows better communication and a feeling of safety for all those involved, and is much better than dealing with the random officer coming new into a situation. We urge you to make keeping the SRO in Fortuna a top priority.

Thank you,



Clint Duey
Principal
Fortuna High School

Dustin Rossman
Dean of Students
Fortuna High School

"Fortuna High School is a supportive community of learners encouraging excellence, practicing integrity, and preparing for the future."





Dear Measure Z Funding Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of our Student Resource Officer who is funded through the Measure Z funds. The role of the Student Resource Officer in our Eel River Valley schools is vital and has played an instrumental role in successfully bridging the gap between our students and our law enforcement community. I have had the opportunity to work closely with Lindsey Frank, our Student Resource Officer, on several projects that help promote kindness and community building. Lindsey has built a rapport with our students and staff that cultivates a sense of family.

Lindsey is continually reaching out to all Eel River Valley schools to see how she can help. I am thankful for Lindsey and what she provides for our schools. The importance of a positive police presence in our schools as well as the wonderful ability to be an ambassador for kindness is immeasurable.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 499-9417.

Warmly,
Sarah Reback

Dear Measure Z Committee,

It has come to my attention that the Fortuna Police Department will be requesting funding from Measure Z very soon so that they can continue to fund their Student Resource Officer Position. I thought it would be important for me to bring my experiences with their Student Resource Officer to your attention so that way you could get a feel for her impact on people within the community.

I first met Officer Frank my senior year of high school. At that time, I was toying with the idea of taking up Law Enforcement as my career choice, and my main study focus in college. At that time, the political climate around policing was beginning to change, and that made me very nervous about going through with my plan. Officer Frank agreed to be my mentor for my senior "Change the World" project at Fortuna High, and have been friends ever since. Just seeing her interact with others around the Fortuna High campus, and other Fortuna schools really showed me how someone can take their role as an officer and spin it into more of a leadership role for the students. Very rarely would I ever see Officer Frank have to interact with a student because of their bad behavior. I would always see her having lunch with students, playing games, or even reading books to them. This showed me that she took her role as a student resource officer very seriously, and as a student, I appreciated that.

Officer Frank has continued to keep in touch with me, even after I graduated high school. About 5 months ago, she introduced me to one of her friends who works for the Humboldt County Correctional Facility, because I had expressed great interest in becoming a Correctional Deputy. With her guidance, I have now applied for my first career in Law Enforcement, and am almost complete with the background check process. Without the mentorship/friendship of Officer Frank, I would not be where I am in life today. Officer Frank has been a wonderful friend and role model to me since she took the position of School Resource Officer for Fortuna PD, and I know she will continue to shine a light for other young women within the Fortuna School Districts who are seeking a career in Law Enforcement.

With kind regards,

Michaela Jones

Fortuna Measure Z Committee:

This is a letter regarding Fortuna Police Officer Lindsey Frank. Officer Frank has been a roll model for my daughter Michaela since we first saw her on patrol in Fortuna several years ago. Michaela said to me that day "someday that's going to be me". When Michaela started high school she introduced herself to Officer Frank and a friendship/mentorship began. After that initial meeting Michaela and Officer Frank formed a friendship throughout her high school years. Michaela would often contact Officer Frank for advice and guidance while at Fortuna High School. Their relationship has continued even though Michaela is now in college. She continues to provide advice and direction to Michaela as she is now moving into her own law enforcement career. It is a relationship that will continue for a life time and as a mother I am very grateful for her caring and honest commitment to my daughter and her future.

In addition, Officer Frank happens to be the Resource Officer at Hydesville School where I have been employed for the last 17 years. Officer Frank went above and beyond her duties over the summer by working with our parent group. She participated in playground improvements by repainting our world map and many of our playground games. She spent many hours at our school improving our outdoor areas so when students were able to return they had a freshly painted and colorful outdoor area to enjoy. Her commitment to improving the local school playgrounds is commendable.

I urge you to continue to fund Officer Frank's position as our school resource officer. She is dedicated to our community and has a passion for the students both current and past.

Thank you for your time.

Sharron Jones



01/27/2021

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
Re: FPD Officer Frank

Over the past four years I have had the privilege and honor to work with Officer Frank as it pertains to the assistance of the youth of the Eel River Valley. As the supervising teacher of Eel River Community School I have observed nothing but exceptional service provided by Ofc. Frank and FPD. Ofc. Frank consistently exceeds her job description in a most beneficial service to the community of the Eel River Valley.

During Ofc. Frank's tenure as SRO for the Eel River Valley I have worked with her in everything from criminal matters, mental health service, missing persons, and community outreach. Because of that and her exemplary dedication; the schools of the Eel River Valley have become more effective and safer. Ofc. Frank is exceptionally effective with the community, that effectiveness is clearly attributed to her dedication to community oriented policing.

Ofc. Frank has an exceptional rapport with not only the students of the Eel River Valley but also the parents and school staff. Ofc. Frank and I taught a parenting course on a regular basis for the community. During that Time she displayed a professionalism and candor that can only be admired.

Ofc. Frank works closely with the administrations of the schools of the Eel River Valley to address the needs of each and every school and their students. That dedication purveys the community with her consistent contact with families in need, Fortuna Resource Center, SARB and the various other entities that assist schools and their clientele. Her position as SRO has been invaluable to the schools of the Eel River Valley and because of that the schools are much more efficient and effective.

Respectfully,

Jon Mircetich
Eel River Community School
HCOE -CCS
(707) 725-0209



February 2, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am the Program Manager for Court and Community Schools/HCOE. I have worked alongside and in schools from within a variety of agencies including Department of Health and Human Services, Arcata Police Department and now HCOE for 26 years. It is from this perspective that I wholly support the role of School Resource Officer. I have had the pleasure of working with the SRO program in the Eel River Valley for five years.

The goals of a well-founded SRO program include supporting a safe learning environment, providing valuable and immediate resources for students, families, and staff, and developing strategies for challenging problems affecting students *that align with the school's culture and vision*. The SRO often becomes a "go to" adult for students who struggle on campus, acting as a mentor and safe role model. The SRO program requires the right person with the right attitude and skill-set. It demands diplomacy, empathy, resolve, and creativity. While it is a law enforcement role, it leads with social-work values.

The role of SRO is also one that responds to the community in the many ways schools and community interact. An active SRO is an overarching position that represents the needs of the surrounding neighborhood and businesses as well as the campus community. The SRO is a community-oriented police officer with the skills to build relationships, create partnerships, and enforce the law. The foundation of a SRO program is a police department's commitment to focusing on the quality of life within the school and the community the school serves. School Resource Officer programs are proactive, solution-based, and community driven.

Lindsey Frank has been an exceptional SRO for Eel River Valley school districts. She is familiar with many students because she does not limit herself to acting only when there are crisis on campus. Students, families, staff, and community members know Officer Frank to be an effective, empathetic problem-solver. She is sensitive to balancing the visions held by school districts to have safe and welcoming campuses with her role as a law enforcement officer. An example of this is Officer Frank's work on the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). Families and students who are asked to participate in SARB have been chronically absent from school. Officer Frank's perspective on the board balances accountability with the interests of the student; more than once she has discovered a student's interest (art, for example) and translated that into an incentive program which serves to increase that student's attendance.

The SRO is an important member on school campuses. While the position can sometimes feel contradictory to community members, Lindsey Frank and the Fortuna Police Department are committed to ensuring the position is respectfully aligned with each school district's culture as well as the needs of the community.

Sincerely,

Gillian Wadsworth, LCSW

Program Manager, Court and Community Schools/HCOE



Rio Dell Police Department
675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562-1597
(707) 764-5642

February 10, 2021

Chairman Glenn Ziemer
Humboldt County Measure Z Committee
825 Fifth Street
Eureka, California 95501

RE: Consideration for Continued Funding for the Fortuna Police Department's School Resource Officer

Dear Mr. Ziemer:

I am writing you today to request that your committee strongly consider continuing the funding of the Fortuna Police Department's School Resource Officer program. Officer Lindsey Frank has provided considerable assistance to the Rio Dell Police Department since the program's inception. Her knowledge of the student population and her ability to communicate with the youthful segment of our population has been an integral part of several investigations. Our department looks forward to continuing to have Officer Franks as a valued resource in the future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Conner".

Jeff Conner
Rio Dell Police Department



Fortuna Elementary School District

Jeffrey E. Northern, M.A., District Superintendent
500 9th Street, Fortuna, California 95540-1997 • 707/725-2293 FAX 707/725-2228

February 8th, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support for the School Resource Officer position through the Fortuna Police Department. As the principal of Walker Elementary School, I have had the honor of working directly with SRO Lindsey Beauchaine for the past year and a half. Her support of the students, teachers, staff, and community is indispensable. Not only does Lindsey help defuse and resolve difficult issues and situations, she brings a lot of positive energy to our school. Lindsey repainted the map in our courtyard and before the Covid-19 restrictions, she would stop by and play basketball with students during our after school program. She made a festive wooden sign for our pumpkin patch and has represented public safety for our career day. Lindsey's ability to build positive relationships with students and families is priceless. She makes our school and community a safer and better place to be.

Sincerely,

Laurie Clendenen

Ambrosini Elementary
Amy Betts, M.A., Principal
3850 Rohnerville Road
707/725-4688 Fax 707/725-4941

Walker Elementary
Laurie Clendenen, Principal
2089 Newburg Road
707/725-2519 Fax 707/725-2085

Fortuna Middle School
Saul Lewis, Principal
843 L Street
707/725-3415 Fax 707/725-6240

Toddy Thomas Middle School
Mathew Bigham, M.A., Principal
2800 Thomas Street
707/725-5197 Fax 707/725-8637



Rio Dell Elementary School District

EAGLE PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
707/764-5694 FAX 707/764-2656

MONUMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL
707/764-3783

95 Center Street • Rio Dell, California 95562 • riodellschools.net

ANGELA JOHNSON, SUPERINTENDENT

LAUREN BRYIE, PRINCIPAL

February 8, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the City of Fortuna continuing to use Measure Z funds to keep Office Lindsey Frank as a School Resource Officer. Over the last four years I have been an administrator at Rio Dell Elementary and having a person like Lindsey in this position is an asset to not only the City of Fortuna, but many other schools in the Eel River Valley.

Lindsey is professional, creative, inspiring, and has an ability to connect with kids and families in a real way that allows Lindsey to be seen as a partner in helping with a solution and not authoritative. I have sat with Lindsey at many Student Attendance Review Board Meetings and she has gone above and beyond to develop and plan to engage the student back into school. Lindsey recently have \$20 of her own personal money, which was matched by another law enforcement officer to buy art supplies as an award for the student coming to school and on time on a weekly basis. Lindsey took they money, purchased the supplies, and made them personalized and unique for the student. It was Lindsey's personal touch and connection to the student that has motivated her to come to school and the student has been on time and had perfect attendance for the last nine weeks.

Lindsey also has a depth of knowledge for resources in the community as well as current code and law. She is someone that I can call if I have a student in trouble and she has an answer for me and can connect me to resources in our community. I can also call her if a student's back pack is in question and needs to be searched, and site the code that allows us to have to search inside the backpack.

Lindsey is a great asset to our students and our community and she serves an important role in our community as our School Resource Officer. I hope you consider continuing to support this position as it is vital to have a positive, compassionate, professional, and engaged officer in this role to inspire and guide our youth.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call or email me at 707-764-5694 or at ajohnson@riodellschools.net.

Sincerely,

Angela Johnson
Rio Dell Elementary Superintendent