



## **Madison Local Schools**

1324 Middletown Eaton Rd.

*"Home of the Mohawks"*

Phone: 513-420-4777 Fax: 513-420-4990

**Jeff Staggs Superintendent**

---

Thank you Chairman LaRe, Vice Chairman Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and the rest of the Criminal Justice Committee for allowing me to speak on this very important topic. Below are talking points that I will be using today. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have of me.

- Introduction of myself
- Background with Armed Staff
  - Superintendent of two districts who have had armed staff
  - Hundreds of hours in training with law enforcement and top level trainers across the country
  - Guest speaker to hundreds of boards of education in Ohio and across the country on this topic
- Response Time
  - Volunteer program
  - Madison Local Schools have two SRO's/ substitute, sickness etc..
  - SROs are targets/ Give teachers and students a fighting chance
  - Teachers are to protect their classrooms and assignments. Last line of defense. NOT an offensive approach. Should not have to rely on staplers and baseball bats. They could legally protect their friends and families in a movie theater with their firearm, why not their students in a classroom.
  - After school programs- concerts, plays, latch-key etc...
  - Our sheriff department is in Hamilton, Ohio approximately 20 minutes away
  - When does 911 get called?
- Training
  - Proper training for school environment
  - Qualification with law enforcement
  - Identification
  - Ongoing training
- Conclusion
  - Top priority to keep students and staff safe
  - Allows local school districts to make the decision about what is best for their unique situations. Not one size fits all.
  - H.B. 99 will add a layer of protection for the students and staff of Ohio
  - Will be honored to answer any questions the committee might have