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### **West Clermont Schools Utilizes Grant to Hire An Elementary School Resource Officer**

As West Clermont continues to focus on ensuring the safety and security of its students, staff, and school buildings, the district will utilize a state-level grant to support efforts in this area. The funding from this grant was part of Ohio House Bill 110 and was awarded to West Clermont by the office of Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost.

Thanks to the district's invaluable partnership with the Union Township Police Department, the district has been able to use these grant monies to secure an additional School Resource Officer (SRO). Officer Michael Ventre will be filling this new SRO position and will focus primarily on serving the elementary schools in the district that reside within Union Township.

Ventre graduated from Harrison High School in 2000 and from the University of Cincinnati Police Academy in 2002. Shortly thereafter, he joined the police force here in Union Township and has served there since 2003.

"I have spent my career helping people and their families in their time of need," said Ventre. "I am excited to be named as the newest School Resource Officer for the West Clermont School District."

Ventre is a two-time recipient of the lifesaving award by the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife have four young children—three of which are of elementary age. He assumed his new role as Elementary School SRO on August 15th, 2022.



"Once again, our students and staff are benefiting from the tremendous partnerships that the district has been fortunate to develop. In particular, I'd like to thank LT. Scott Blankenship and his dedication to helping West Clermont ensure the safety and security of our students, staff, and school buildings," said Mike Overbey, Chief Operating Officer for West Clermont Schools.

**About West Clermont:** West Clermont School District commits to excellence with every learner, every day, and in every way. Its vision is that together as one community, we learn, lead, and succeed. The district believes that together we are ON THE RISE and values strengthening relationships, cultivating innovation, being relentlessly student-centered, and fostering empowerment.