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**Above:** Steven Siekbert, West Clermont High School School Resource Officer, introduces Nya to the West Clermont Board of Education during their meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022.

## **West Clermont High School Introduces K-9 Unit**

West Clermont High School students will soon see a four-legged companion roaming the hallways thanks to School Resource Officer (SRO) Steven Siekbert's new partner.

Officer Siekbert was recently assigned a K-9 unit. Nya, a 7-month-old Giant Schnauzer, is trained in the detection of illegal narcotics and finding missing people. She's not your typical police dog, however. She is not trained to be aggressive or bite. Rather, her purpose is to be a visible and physical deterrent to drug activity within our schools and community. Nya is hypoallergenic and will interact daily with staff and students.

"This is one more way we are keeping our hands on the wheel with respect to the safety and wellness of our school community," said West Clermont Schools Chief Operating Officer Mike Overbey.

West Clermont Schools partners with the Union Township Police Department on securing School Resource Officers. Officer Siekbert is a 31-year veteran of Clermont County law enforcement, the past 19 of which he has been with Union Township. He is in his eighth year as West Clermont High School's SRO.

"We look forward to Nya becoming a beloved member of the police department as well as the West Clermont School District," said Union Township Police Chief Scott Gaviglia.

**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.

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