WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT
MEETING MINUTES
CJTC – BURIEN, WA
NOVEMBER 17, 2011
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

PARTICIPANTS: Frank Hewins; Mike Donlin; Bob Graham; Bruce Kuennen; Tony Zeman; Randy Town; Greg Williamson; Jennifer Harris; Kathleen Sande; Denise Fitch; Dixie Grunenfelder; Keith Merritt; Patrick E. Sturgill; Mary Sue Linville

GUEST: Martin Speckmaier

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

1. Frank Hewins welcomed everyone, brought the meeting to order at 9:10 am and asked that everyone introduce themselves.
2. The meeting minutes from August 18, 2011, were reviewed and approved.
3. OSPI Updates were provided by the OSPI staff: Denise Fitch has replaced Jeff Soder at the Advisory as Jeff has taken a new position at OSPI but is still with the Learning and Teaching section.
4. Bob Graham gave updates at CJTC regarding staff changes. Debbie Mealy is the acting Director and Steve Lettic is the Assistant Director at this time. Bob continued to explain the structure of the training program and how they have been funded in the past and the changes that have been made due to the loss of funding.
5. Mike Donlin updated the committee on the Safety Center Web site. The Web site at this time does not have a link or posting of the Safety Advisory Committee history or information. Mike suggested with the committee’s approval, to post the Advisory information to the site if the committee thought that it would be appropriate to do so. The Committee unanimously agreed. Mike will bring the site up to date by posting the minutes, history of the committee, and resources.
6. A Bullying Workgroup update was provided by Mike Donlin. There have been two meetings to date and they have been very focused on the tasks that the Legislature addressed in the HB1163. There are nine areas in the bill that the legislature identified as priorities. A progress report will be due to the legislature by December 1, 2011. A draft report is almost complete. There will be a Webinar on November 22, from 11:00am – 12:00pm to discuss the draft and get input from those who wish to participate on the report. The next scheduled meeting will be December 7, 2011 at CJTC from 12:00pm – 4:00pm. The Workgroup and the Advisory overlap and will continue to interact with each other.
7. Gangs Task Workgroup met on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 to work on the report that is due to the legislature on December 1, 2011. Randy Town provided an update of the progress of the report and the group. The meeting not only made progress with the report but, they also have in place a very good plan of action for the upcoming year. Randy also shared with the committee the CJTC Gangs training model that Bob Graham and he have developed in conjunction with Yakima PD. The model is the very basic gangs 101, which is where most of the school administrators need to start. The training is a four hour course which they will continue and expand the model. The cost of training was free to the attendees through the Yakima PD and CJTC providing the trainer and the facility.
8. Dixie Grunenfelder presented to the committee the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) how the survey was and continues to be developed; how it is administered by the schools; how schools choose to administer; the data and how it can be used; how and who can use the data. Dixie walked the committee through the AskHYS Web site and how to manipulate the data. The information provided by the HYS is extremely important and useful not only for schools, but for others.

9. Mike Donlin informed the committee of the current situation with the Snohomish High School event. Mike had a conversation with the principal of the high school regarding lessons learned and what can we share with others around the event. The principal’s response was the “Safety Plan” worked after the incident; they had good communication after the event due to the constant voicemail updates to parents, students, and staff and in her own voice. They received positive feedback from parents, students, and staff. During the event there could have been better communication to teachers in particular regarding the type of lock down. But, the plan worked. One take-away from this situation is that there are certain types of events that people will never be able to foresee, and we should not try to create a separate plan for each and every variation of a potential event.

10. Martin Speckmaier with Comprehensive School Safety, LLC, was invited by Randy Town to present to the group his model on Student Threat Assessment. Martin has a background in Law Enforcement and school safety and has developed a training model and curriculum which includes “How to do a Threat Assessment” and “How to conduct an inquiry.” Martin has based much of his training on the Salem Keiser Model and Best Practices. Martin’s information was well received and timely for the committee given some of the most recent events in schools. During Martin’s presentation the questions was asked regarding threat assessment training and if the ESD’s are providing any? Martin responded that yes, the ESD’s are providing assistance but, that some are stronger than others with providing training, NW ESD 189 in particular is very pro-active in their region.

11. Legislative advocacy targets from the committee for this upcoming session were discussed. Frank Hewins lead the discussion first by asking the committee for their input. Denise Fitch suggested that we keep in mind that this session will not be easy and to be prepared for more cuts not only to the state but, at the federal level. Greg Williamson added to the discussion that we, the committee need a common voice and be supporting; Mike Donlin added that no one issue stands alone. The committee determined that during this session the issues that the Advisory would like to focus on are:
   - Revisiting the definitions of “Weapons.”
   - Gangs in Schools Recommendations
   - Data/Reporting
   - Professional Development
   - Records Transfers between districts (such as: McKinney-Vento)

Mary Sue Linville shared with the committee good news that the Risk Management Pool this last year had a significant decrease in Sexual Abuse Claims.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 19, 2011 at AWSP 9:00am – 12:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at 12:10pm