School Safety Advisory Committee
February 23, 2012 / Washington Risk Management Group

Meeting Notes

Present: Frank Hewins, Mary Sue Linville, Randy Town, Joe Pope, Walt Bigby, Nancy Bernard, Patrick Sturgill, Mike Donlin

1. Frank opened the meeting at 9:05 and welcomed everyone. The Committee voted on the minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Mike indicated that there was now a School Safety Advisory Committee link on the School Safety Center website. Currently, there is information on today’s meeting. We had previously talked about adding some of the historical documents from the Advisory Committee. Mike asked the members to send any electronic copies of documents they’d like to see posted.

The next Anti-HIB Work Group meeting will be held on March 14 at OSPI. This will allow for K-20 capabilities. OSPI and the Office of the Education Ombudsman will be meeting on March 8 to develop the agenda for that meeting. Mike commented on some of the HIB questions coming in. There was a brief discussion of the omission of the “or’s” in the wording of the model HIB policy. There are three “or” conjunctions in the legislation which are implicit in the policy, but which people have asked about.

Joe asked about the inclusion of cyberbullying in the overall HIB work. Mike noted that the law speaks to “electronic forms” of HIB. He also briefly walked through the requirements of the “Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act”. Passed in 2008, FCC guidance just came out in November 2011. As an update to CIPA & ERate compliance requirements, the law requires school districts to update their Internet Use policy by July 2012 to include Internet safety education and cyberbullying awareness and response. Mike has been working with the OSPI Office of Educational Technology and WSSDA to update WSSDA policy. A bulletin is expected to go out to districts in the near future. Mike will also send 2 documents he’s been working on around these issues. He also provided members of the Committee with copies of the FCC NetCetera booklet for parents and teachers.

3. Randy brought the Committee up to speed on the work of the Gangs in Schools Task Force. Rather than submit a required Legislative Report for 2011 which was very similar to the previous reports, the Task Force Report looked at specific work areas for 2012 based on experiences from the year. The Task Force identified three major areas: data gathering and information sharing, policy guidance for districts, and training and professional development for school staffs.
The Task Force will focus initially on data and information sharing. Randy spoke to the forthcoming data report from Yakima. The next TF meeting will also look at specific and/or potential gang-related data from the HYS, CEDARS and other sources.

After a brief update on gang-related legislation this session, Randy also shared information on the Yakima Gang Court program. There was also a conversation about effective interventions for gang-involved youth and schools. Randy noted that about 80% of the youth involved in Gang Court do not want to be in a gang. Walt asked how systemic the problem really is. Randy indicated that gang involvement is generational, and crosses geographical boundaries. To answer the systemic question, however, we need good data. He also noted that OJJDP gang-program dollars basically go to location on the east coast because, as he has been told, “there are no gang problems in places like Yakima or Tacoma.”

Randy will invite Jonna Vandyk of the WA State Traffic Safety Commission to a future Advisory Committee meeting to talk about their upcoming seat belt/restraint awareness campaign.

4. Barbara Thurman was unable to attend today’s meeting as she is involved in a new tsunami awareness and response curriculum training today. Mike gave a couple brief updates for her. The new shelter in place/lockdown training video is almost ready; voice-overs were done yesterday. The finished product will be done soon. Patrick asked if they would also be available to higher ed. Mike wasn’t sure, but thought they probably would be at least available to community and technical colleges.

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Grant consultant selection process was completed over the last couple weeks. 9 consulting firms submitted responses to the RFQQ; three were selected for interviews. The final results should be known soon. There was conversation around this grant and grant process. Points of clarification included the fact that the pre-disaster mitigation planning will be on a statewide basis, initially. It will include earthquakes, tsunamis, forest fires, floods, volcanoes, etc... all manner of natural disaster. This planning process is different from current emergency planning in that it focuses on pre-disaster planning. The work comes through the OSPI Facilities office.

5. Denise Fitch had sent information on the YSPP suicide prevention curriculum roll-out. It was shared with the group. Bruce K. was not able to attend the meeting as he was providing Rapid Responder training. He did send information on Rapid Responder trainings. (Mary Sue indicated that she was going to participate in the training in Burlington tomorrow.) There was conversation about the currency of Rapid Responder data and whether it contained old information or whether that data was updated. The follow-up question centered on whose responsibility it is to do updating.

6. Frank did a brief update on several pieces of legislation impacting school safety.
a. HB 6562 – AED’s in high schools, and accepting donated equipment;
b. HB 1208 – Student sex offenders in schools notification;
c. HB 1734 – Criminal code update for sharp bladed instruments on school campuses;
d. HB 1893 – Expanded searches in schools

7. The Committee discussed the goals and the direction for the Advisory Committee. Specific ideas which came out:
   a. Having all update materials posted early to save meeting time, then
   b. Focusing meetings on new needs which arise and on actually advising on safety issues.
   c. Defining “school safety” in/for our ever changing environment;
   d. Developing a strategic plan with goals and metrics for success;
   e. Sending out a survey monkey to Committee members to see what their safety interests and needs are;
   f. Possibly meeting monthly rather than quarterly with a set day and location.

As a result, the previously scheduled Advisory Committee meeting on March 22, 2012 is cancelled. A core group of Committee members will meet:

   a. All day (9:00 ~ 4:00 +/-) on April 26
   b. At AWSP (or OSPI)
   c. To review the draft summary document from the 2007 retreat and update information, goals, processes, etc. (Mike will post this for this group.)
   d. Before taking the work of that day to the full Advisory Committee.
   e. Suggested “core group” members include the eight members present today, Steve Lettic and the new CJTC director; Martin Mueller & Greg Williamson; Bob McMullen, AWSP; Tony Zeman; a WSSDA and a legislative representative; Bruce and Keith, WASPC; a representative from Eastern WA (ESD 101/Spokane SD).
   f. Ideally, the Advisory Committee will have everything ‘in place’ prior to the 2012-2013 school year.

8. With many thanks to Mary Sue for hosting and providing treats and coffee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00.