**School Safety Advisory Committee Meeting**

**November 1, 2018**

**9:00 – 12:00**

**ESD 105 - Yakima**

**NOTES:**

**In Attendance**: Brian Smith, Chair; Chris Weedin, Host; David Corr; Kelly Hembach; Bruce Kuennen; Mike Donlin.

**Zoom Attendees**: Nancy Bernard; Nancy Chamberlain; Mike Dingle; Kaaren Heikes; Annie Hetzel; David Kirk; Mona Johnson; Scott LaBar; Greg Lynch; Martin Mueller; Andrew Rausch; Sandra Smith.

Brian opened the meeting at 9:00, and Chris welcomed us to Yakima and ESD 105. Introductions around the table were pretty quick, but when we attempted to do Zoom introductions, we realized that we were having issues with the sound portion of the Zoom meeting. Although we continued to address this, we were not sure how much of the meeting – or how many of the participants – actually made it.

The first agenda item was a very brief revisit of the SSAC rechartering issues from our August SSAC retreat. We had a somewhat longer conversation around these at the October meeting. As a reminder and a review, topics for the SSAC to consider as it moves into 2018-19 and beyond include:

* + Goals for the School Safety Advisory Committee ;
  + Membership Who might be members of work groups;
  + Review of the current SSAC charter;
  + SSAC advisor role: OSPI? ESD? Districts? Schools? Legislators? Others?
  + Accountability measures;
  + Funding: Advancing the work of the Summits;
  + SSAC marketing: Washington’s school safety committee;

overcoming the ‘media-driven’ vision of school safety

* + Addressing issues which arise: providing timely “advice”.

Mike gave a brief review of the “$722” proviso efforts. Funds have been allocated to the ESDs via iGrants to address the requirements of the proviso: to establish regional safety programs with a focus on threat assessment, notification protocols and safety technologies. The bulk of the effort is currently on standardizing threat assessment protocols across the state. Within the fund allocation process, as a component of establishing regional safety center programs, a survey was developed and disseminated through the 9 ESDs. Initial results of that survey were shared, orally. As of the November 1 meeting, 181 / 295 (61.3%) LEAs had responded to the survey. 50% indicated that they annually reviewed their comprehensive safety plans. A final summary report will be available in the coming weeks.

In addition to the $722 proviso dollars, OSPI received one of the statewide Bureau of Justice Assistance Student, Teachers and Officers Preventing School Violence Act (***BJA STOP***) grants in the amount of $1,000,000 over a three year period. The focus of these funds is also on threat assessment. The dollars will be sued to support the efforts underway through the proviso dollars.

For the second year (2018-19), $100K safety proviso funding is also being allocated to the 9 ESDs through iGrants for a “school safety program…to provide the school safety training for administrators and school safety personnel…” Details around this allocations have been shared with the ESDs and were discussed at this meeting. As per last year, $10K is allocated to each ESD to offer (at least) 1 comprehensive school safety planning training and 1 other safety-specific training for school safety personnel.

We are all aware of the SAO Safety Audit. In addition, there have been 2 other safety-related audits, as well. Recommendations from the Safety Audit look to be very much in line with the work and the discussions of the SSAC over the last couple of years. in particular around the establishment of regional school safety center programs.

A second audit centered around notification ***to schools*** when a youth was enrolled in a school following adjudication. This second audit led to a 3rd audit on what happens ***within schools*** when such a notification is received. It appears that two very old, somewhat contradictory RCWs have led to a lack of clarity over time. The results of all three of these audits will be shared soon.

Brian shared a brief update on the WASPC Mass Shootings Work Group. Discussions continued around threat assessment, mental health needs of young people, Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO), and availability of firearms and other weapons. The final report is due to the legislature in December.

We had the most successful [**Great WA ShakeOut**](https://www.shakeout.org/washington/) ever. There were just under 857,000 K-12 students who dropped, covered and held on for ShakeOut 2018! Kudos to Barbara Thurman, Rosanne Garrand, our partners at EMD, and all of the districts and schools which participated!

Although we did not discuss each of the items from the October meeting in depth, there was agreement that it seems that much of what people have seen and heard with relation to upcoming legislative requests are very much in line. There is the recognized need for regional safety programs, for greater mental health resources for schools, and for consistent threat assessment processes across the state. There is also interest in reestablishing the anti-HIB work group, and in revisiting the school mapping requirements.

In light of recent events, the topic of mail screening protocols for schools came up. Chris shared an excellent poster which he has also shared with several districts and schools.

Finally, in the remaining time we had together, we briefly discussed both “comprehensive school safety” planning and SROs. We recognized that we do not have a universal understanding of what SROs are, nor do we have criteria, training requirements, etc., for SROs nor for other school safety personnel. We also agreed that threat assessment, HIB, mental health and suicide prevention, gun control, school mapping and SROs do not constitute, in and of themselves, and separately, comprehensive school safety. Rather they all do have a roll, and together with other considerations, become part of a comprehensive plan.

The next SSAC meeting will be held 9:00 – noon, on December 6 at the OSPI Annex in Olympia.

The meeting was adjourned just before noon.

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