

School Safety and Student Well-Being Advisory Committee

March 12, 2020 Meeting Notes

Summary:

On Thursday, March 12, 2020 the School Safety and Student Well-Being Advisory Committee (SS-SWAC) met for the 3rd of 4 meetings scheduled for the 2019/2020 year. Originally scheduled to be held at the Capitol ESD from 9 -12, the meeting was moved to a virtual platform via Zoom due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the need to social distance. In addition to the change in venue, the meeting duration was shifted to a 2-hour meeting to lessen the impact on attendees and participants.

An agenda was set prior to the meeting but not explicitly followed due to the need to focus on current events. The notes below reflect conversation related to agenda topics but not necessarily in the noted order.

Attendees:

Members and Participants: **Greg Lynch**, Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD). **Sandra Barton Smith**, Archdiocese – Seattle. **Kurt Hatch**, Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP). **Bob Graham**, Criminal Justice Training Commission (CTJC). **Rose Spidell**, Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC). **Nancy Bernard**, Department of Health (DOH). **Brianne Ramos**, Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA). **Myra Hernandez**, Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs (CHA). **Nancy Chamberlain**, Washington State PTA. **Jim Heishman**, Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC). **Andrew Rauch**, Washington Federation of Independent Schools (WFIS). **Justin Kesterson**, Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA). **Abigail Westbrook**, Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA). **Karen Davy**, Washington School Safety Organization (WSSO). **Shanna McBride**, Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF). **Larry Wright**, Forefront Suicide Prevention. **Jill Patnode**, Kaiser Permanente. **David Kirk**, Omak School District.

Members of School Safety and Student Well-Being Youth Advisory Council (SS-SWAC-YAC): **Katherine**, Vashon Island School District. **Lily**, University of Washington. **Sadie**, Okanogan School District. **Ailani**, Evergreen School District.

OSPI Representation: **Tayler Burkhart**, **Kristin Hennessy**, **Tammy Bolen**, **Ann Gray**, **Camille Goldy**, **Ella DeVerse**, **Martin Mueller**, **Mike Donlin**, **Lee Collyer**, **Josh Lynch**.

Public Attendees: **Greg Williamson**, Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF). **Megan Wargacki**, House OPR. **Ailey Kato**, Senate Committee Services. **Grace Burkhart**, ESD 113. **Dan Beaudoin**, ESD 113. **Susan Lathrop**, ESD 114.



School Resource Officers - Review and Consultation

The SS-SWAC reviewed the following information presented by Mike Donlin.

- [OSPI SRO webpage](#)
- Model policy and procedure coming soon!
- MOA template coming soon!
- Discussed the grant program to fund the training for SROs.

Behavioral Health Update

- Toward the end of 2019, the 2 Behavioral Health System Navigators from the pilot project of the Children's Mental Health Workgroup spent a lot of time interviewing the schools in their area.
 - ◇ 84 district level interviews were conducted. 77% reported access to behavioral health services. 62% reported access for all students to behavioral health services. 93% felt the system was insufficient to meet the needs
 - ◇ When asked about the ability to meet the behavioral health needs of students within current capacity:
 - "Funding is number one, we have none. Finding a licensed treatment provider who is talented and qualified to meet the needs of our kids is not available. We need training and education for counselors who are qualified to provide treatment."
 - "We have no support; we don't know who to call. No access, availability, consistency, eligibility. We wouldn't know who to call right now. If they're not on Medicaid, they don't get services. It can be really difficult even for those on Medicaid."
 - "We have 1 FTE for 6,200 students. The need is higher than what we have available. We don't have the system to support the funding, time, and resources that it would take to sustainably serve all the students we need to."
 - ◇ Next steps for that team:
 - Follow up supports for Districts:
 - Suicide Prevention Plans
 - Behavioral Health Curriculum
 - Screening & Assessment Tools
 - School-based Medicaid Programs Technical Assistance & Training
 - MOU's with Community-based Providers
 - Development of Tools for Navigators
 - Playbook
 - Interview Protocol
 - Resource Guide



- Grace Burkhart, the Behavioral Health System Navigator at ESD 113, presented on her experience through the interview process and the need/ask from the schools involved.
- A member of the SS-SWAC YAC had a question of cross-cultural supports for students of colors or students of a different culture who may experience different barriers when it comes to behavioral health/mental health. Specifically, in regard to cultures who tend to not believe in behavioral health.
 - ◊ This is important stigma work that we all have to do in our schools and communities! We have a lot of work to do to help our community partners have the resources they need to serve people from all different cultures.

Preparation for June 11 SS-SWAC Meeting and School Safety Summit

- Due to the change in location and venue, the previously scheduled SS-SWAC YAC presentation on behavioral health supports for students has been moved to the June 11 SS-SWAC meeting.
- The June 11 SS-SWAC meeting will be combined with The Annual Safety Summit as voted on at the December 5 SS-SWAC meeting.
 - ◊ The June 11 SS-SWAC meeting and annual safety summit will be held at ESD 113 in Olympia, WA.
 - ◊ The morning will be the advisory committee meeting and the afternoon will be the safety summit.
 - ◊ While the SS-SWAC meeting is public, the summit is a closed meeting.
- Attendees were provided an overview of the summit and its purpose.
 - ◊ Annual summits are to establish and monitor a plan to fund school safety.
 - ◊ The purpose is to establish needs and to develop/monitor the plan.
 - ◊ Policy and funding barriers that are in need of navigating are discussed.
- Attendees were provided with the following prompt to take back to their constituency groups for the purpose of gathering information in preparation for the June 11 safety summit. Prompt:
 - ◊ "If you woke up tomorrow, and the biggest school safety or student well-being issue was resolved, what would it be?"
 - ◊ "What does that Resolution look like?"
 - ◊ "How would the lives of schools, students, and staff be changed?"
- It was noted that currently, COVID-19 is the biggest safety and well-being issue and attendees were encouraged to think about issues **in addition to** and beyond COVID-19.



COVID-19

Attendees were provided information and navigation of sites related to the COVID-19 outbreak. The need to access accurate and up to date information was emphasized. The following sites and links were provided to the group.

- [OSPI COVID-19 webpage](#)
- [OSPI bulletins](#)
- [COVID-19 in Schools: A Parent Guide](#)
- [Washington Department of Health Novel Coronavirus Outbreak \(COVID-19\) webpage](#)
- It was stressed that school districts should be communicating with their local health departments.

Legislative Updates

Martin Mueller provided a legislative update to attendees.

The current legislative session was scheduled to end (3-12-20) the day of the meeting and the budget was in the final steps of approval.

- The budget as it relates to school safety and student well-being:
 - ◇ Increases and includes an appropriation to focused on suicide prevention and behavioral health. This will provide a springboard for us to continue to build out the work that we've been doing with the behavioral pilots in two of our ESDs over the last 2 1/2 years and build capacity regionally for that broad support around suicide prevention and behavioral health.
 - ◇ Increases an appropriation for high poverty elementary schools. This increases the allocation for school counselors, they increases that allocation by .5 FTE for each high poverty elementary school.
 - ◇ OSPI got additional resources for our work around implementing 1216.
 - This includes a \$570,000 appropriation for OSPI for our work implementing 1216 and the state and regional school safety centers.
 - Additionally, there is \$200,000 in that appropriation for grants to school districts for suicide prevention. The language generally states that should be going to those with the greatest need, so we'll work our way through how to make that determination and then build up a grant program.
 - ◇ There are additional resources, not specific to school safety, but as you know, but for our homeless student support program. We have \$1,000,000 appropriation that was increased to \$1,200,000. Our hope with that money is that most of it will go to expanding technical assistance and training around the state to help school district schools.



- ◇ There are some resources in the budget for OSPI to staff the children's behavioral health workgroup's subcommittee on the intersection of behavioral health and K–12 schools.
- Also, you may notice a reduction in the OSPI budget for the regional school safety centers. That's because they took it out of OSPIs budget and put it into the ESD's budget. It will now be a direct allocation to the ESD.

Questions received in response to legislative updates:

- Sandy Hunt, representative from WEA, had questions surrounding the bill for sex education for K-12 and if we consider that to be school safety and student well-being related.
 - ◇ Tammy Bolen, SEL Program Supervisor from OSPI, shared that she is working with the OSPI Learning and Teaching Department on standards and what the SEL component of that K-3 sex education will look like. We have discussed the closeness of SEL and safety/well-being and how it is integrated. We see a relationship and we have just begun the process of working on that.
- Sandy followed up about the plan for communication to families. There is the technical side and then there is the adaptive cultural piece. What can we do to make sure that communities understand the value of what was just passed and making sure there is not a back lash?
 - ◇ OSPI has a good follow up with our communications office to see about how we can get messaging out to this group and we will also discuss that at our upcoming SEL advisory committee. Further comment that the communication needs to reach parents and communities.

Public Comment and Closing Remarks/Next Steps

- Nancy Bernard, representative from Department of Health walked us through cleaning and disinfection guidance.
 - ◇ She reminded us to focus on what we know about the virus and respiratory diseases.
 - ◇ We shouldn't forget all our training and we should not bring in a lot of chemicals at this time.
 - ◇ DOH has guidance on the website for [disinfection](#).

