

School Safety and Student Well-being Advisory Committee Meeting

9/26/19

Meeting Summary

A main theme throughout the meeting was the need to ensure the representation and inclusion of people of color. While we have appointed representatives from the Ethnic Commissions for Hispanic Affairs and Asian Pacific American Affairs, and they attended the meeting, we have invitations out to the Ethnic Commission for African American Affairs, the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, and the Tribal Compact Schools Leadership Committee. We assure you that we will continue to follow up on these invitations to ensure inclusive representation on the SS-SWAC.

We discussed the establishment of the School Safety and Student Well-Being Advisory Committee under HB1216 including a general overview of the bill, the purpose of the committee, operation procedures, and engaging youth voice. The overview of 1216 included specific questions and topics such as; suicide rates among educators, the inclusion of charter schools in the advisory committee and legislation and required training components for SROs. In addition to these topics, general questions were asked about the bill itself regarding sections that were not funded or fully funded and when RCWs, WACs, and the OSPI website language would align.

The technical aspects of the committee were discussed including the creation of reports and the voting process for members. In addition to these general requirements of the committee, other technical aspects at large were brought to the committee's attention including the lack of consistent mapping regions for ESDs, EMD, DSHS/HCA, DCYF, DNR, etc. It has been requested that we consider compiling a map and crosswalk of services outlining each of the service areas and supports as they exist in the state. This will be an on-going project for the committee and OSPI.

The topic of youth voice and inclusion in the committee was high on the list for members and participants as youth/students are our largest stakeholder in school safety and student well-being. Youth are explicitly called out in legislation as members and this group must find a way to include them in the process. Many members and participants offered suggestions for groups to connect with and utilize to ensure that youth voice is heard and represented at the table. A Youth Engagement Sub-Group was established at the meeting and is comprised of the following volunteers:

- Ella DeVerse, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI

- Mike Donlin, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Camille Goldy, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Benjamin Coulter, Seattle Public Schools, SPS
- Sandy Hunt, Washington Education Association, WEA
- Rose Spidell, Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, EOGOAC
- Nancy Chamberlain, Washington State PTA
- David Kirk, Omak School District

A first meeting has been scheduled for this group on October 17, 2019 and a follow up meeting has been scheduled for November 1, 2019. It is our intent to have youth representation at the December 5 meeting.

Greg Lynch, Superintendent ESD 114, and Mick Miller, Assistant Superintendent ESD 101, provided the committee with an overview of the Regional School Safety Centers as outlined in HB 1216. Included in this overview was an emphasis on Threat Assessment Programs and the behavioral health component that was not funded in the legislation. This conversation stressed threat assessment as a prevention model to keep tragic incidents from occurring in our schools. OSPI is compiling data from all nine ESDs on their Threat Assessment Programs and a summary of this data may be shared in later meetings. While some ESDs have Behavioral Health Navigators, if fully funded, HB1216 will require that each ESD appoints one. Please see the attached PowerPoint Presentation PDF for further information.

As required under HB1216, WSSDA and OSPI are working together to create a model policy on threat assessment. Abigail Westbrook joined up via Zoom to inform the group on the process that is currently underway, but due to technical difficulties, was unable to remain in contact. Martin Mueller continued the conversation to provide further information on the group currently set to participate in the creation of the policy and to determine further interest in involvement from SS-SWAC attendees. It was expressed that communication to families and the community on threat assessment is of high importance to guarantee understanding of the process. The initial group for the policy creation had met earlier in the week to discuss first steps, review the legislation and requirements, and to begin a review of other model policies. Identified under the initial group were the following:

- Abigail Westbrook, Washington State School Directors' Association, WSSDA
- Ella DeVerse, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Mike Donlin, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Gerald Martens, Washington Schools Risk Management Pool, WSRMP
- Deborah Callahan, Washington Schools Risk Management Pool, WSRMP
- Tina Meade, Seattle Public Schools, SPS
- Denise Dishongh, Educational Service District, ESD 112

- Kim Beeson, Educational Service District, ESD 121
- Leon Covington, Educational Service District, ESD 101
- Mona Johnson, South Kitsap School District
- Kendrick Washington, American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU
- Sarah Albertson, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Joshua Lynch, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI

The following attendees expressed interest in joining or working with this group on the creation of the policy:

- Sandy Hunt, Washington Education Association, WEA
- Rose Spidell, Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, EOGOAC
- Nancy Chamberlain, Washington State PTA
- Jim Heishman, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, WASPC
- Tanya Aggar, Parent, Mercer Island PTA
- Jared Hoadley, Mead School District

Under HB 1216, the model policy and procedure must be completed by January 1, 2020. It is the intent to provide a draft policy and procedure to put before the SS-SWAC at the December 5 meeting.

SROs, the definition, and new training requirements under HB1216 was an important topic of discussion and on-going as requirements go into effect for the 2020/2021 school year. To help further this work, an SRO Sub-Group was formed and will hold their first meeting on October 25. The Sub-Group is comprised of the following volunteers:

- Mike Donlin, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Ella DeVerse, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI
- Karen Davy, Washington School Safety Organization, WSSO
- Sandy Hunt, Washington Education Association, WEA
- Elizabeth Venuto, Health Care Authority, HCA
- Brianne Ramos, Ethnic Commission for Asian Pacific American Affairs
- Gerald Martens, Washington Schools Risk Management Pool, WSRMP
- Jim Heishman, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, WASPC

- Benjamin Coulter, Seattle Public Schools, SPS
- Andrew McCurdy, King County Sheriff's Office, KCSO

Tentative upcoming items for the December 5 meeting:

- Threat Assessment Presentation, ESD 112
- Threat assessment Policy and Procedure
- Youth Engagement
- JLARC – Tentative
- Defining Comprehensive School Safety
- SB 5689 HIB/Gender Inclusive Policy & Procedures Update
- SRO Sub-Group
- Behavioral Health Update.