

School Safety Advisory Committee

October 2, 2014

AWSP, Olympia

9:00 – Noon

MEETING NOTES



PRESENT: Frank Hewins, Chair; Tim Garchow; Craig Apperson; Pegi McEvoy; Barbara Thurman; Peggy Lovell-Ford; Heather Weissinger; Scott Black; Bob Pierce; Bruce Kuennen; Mike Hubert; Dixie Grunenfelder; Mike Donlin.

Frank called the meeting to order at 9:00.

After introductions, Dixie Grunenfelder announced that The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction had recently received [an **AWARE Grant** from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration Project AWARE grant](#). The grant will provide \$1.95 million per year for five years. As Dixie explained, The AWARE initiative proposes a comprehensive and integrated approach to create safe, healthy, respectful, and violence- and drug-free schools and communities through systems change and implementation support. This multi-tiered strategy includes training on behavioral health prevention; intervention; and identification and referral in three districts in Washington State: Battle Ground, Marysville, and Shelton.

The AWARE initiative will address state and local needs by expanding capacity at state and local levels to improve school climate and safety. The initiative will also expand our capacity at all levels to increase awareness of mental health (MH) issues. Finally, the initiative will expand our capacity to improve access to MH services for children and youth. This work is directly related to HB 1336, Troubled Youth in Schools, and also to HB 1163, the Anti-HIB Work Group.

There was a lot of very positive conversation around the grant and imminent grant activity.

Barbara Thurman updated the Committee on the [Great WA ShakeOut](#) coming October 16. ShakeOut is an earthquake drill across WA, and several other states up and down the West Coast and into Canada. Currently, with over 740,000 total registrants, and over 500,000 students registered, school numbers are looking good; Barbara is still coordinating with others to spread the word to get other organizations further involved and registered. The overall goal is 1M people in WA participating.

Barbara also talked about her work with man-made hazards and the vulnerability study. Initially targeting five schools, the work was expanded to cover nearly 50 schools across 9 regions in the state. The project looks mapping chemical hazards – plants, rail lines, etc. – in a 2m / 5 m proximity to school campuses. Ultimately, the efforts will connect local educators with plant managers for communication in case of emergencies, help plan evacuation routes if already planned routes are destroyed, and generally connect education and private sector people for emergency planning.

Mike noted that the [DOH/OSPI WiFi report](#), responding to concerns over wifi in schools, was completed. A link is posted on our SSAC web page. The bottom line: there are no health concerns for schools related to wifi.

Tim noted that the [WA School Safety Conference & Summit](#) has been postponed until a date in the spring. Tim noted that several school administrators had indicated that, with all the TPEP, Common Core, other conferences, and other initiatives/requirements this fall, the **interest was great**, but the timing was a challenge. Heather will be looking at potential dates in the spring. Mike indicated that the Student Support Conference was being planned for the spring; he'll check the dates. (***Tentatively scheduled for May 13 – 16, Wenatchee.***)

The Committee members looked at initial Suspension/Expulsion Behavior data for 2013-14. Mike noted that the numbers for the federal category of "Bullying" had fallen from **11,983** suspension and 402 expulsions in 2009-10 to **4,449** suspensions and 207 expulsions last year. This reduction in suspensions and expulsions for "bullying" can be attributed to better understanding and awareness of what bullying is, better prevention and intervention efforts, better understanding of what to do and to avoid, and the understanding that "bullying" does not necessarily call for suspension or expulsion.

Other behavior data points of interest: this is the first year in which WA separated out "marijuana" use as a category from the federal category of "Illicit Drugs." When reported to the feds, these numbers will be collapsed as the federal report does not disaggregate "marijuana." This is the 2nd year of the "Other" category. The Student Discipline Task Force is looking into that "other" category to help define what behaviors are/might be collected as "other."

There were questions and discussion around the "H" part of our HIB definition and policy. It was noted that the "Bullying" numbers may well contain data for sexual (or other) harassment. Although these do fall under our current definitions for HIB, there are different requirements for handling (Title IX) sexual harassment.

Mike updated the committee on the Anti-HIB Work Group. At the [September 18](#) meeting, the Work Group laid out the core of its 2014-15 "work plan". This includes finalizing all of the legislated work items, but also looking at several of the aspects of the work which the Work Group has wanted to consider. This includes the possibility of looking at the district survey which was done in Oregon to determine how or how well districts are dealing with harassment, intimidation or bullying.

Mike noted that current Compliance Officer contact information is posted and that he has started a CO newsletter this year. He's gotten some positive feedback so far. He also noted that October is [National Bullying Prevention Month](#).

Scott reported that there will be a meeting to address additional requirements of SB 5197 and the [OSPI Facilities & Operations grants – SB 5197](#). The meeting will be the subgroup which volunteered at our August meeting, and will consider guidance around remodels and new construction as per the requirements of 5197.

Mike noted that the Safety Survey going out to all school districts in response to 5197 is in the works, as is the OSPI Bulletin about that survey. They should all be ready to go before our next meeting so as to meet the December 1 reporting date.

Mike was happy to report that OSPI had received the DOE [Grants to States for School Emergency Management Program](#) which we had applied for in July.

The US Department of Education made School Emergency Management Program grants available in May, 2014. The absolute priority was to expand the capacity of SEAs to provide training and technical assistance to LEAs for the development and implementation of high-quality school emergency operations plans. \$557,940 was made available to WA. The grant is for 18 months, from October 1, 2014 thru March 31, 2016.

Stakeholders include OSPI; ESDs, LEAs, partner organizations and agencies in the School Safety Advisory Committee. Some of those partnering agencies include the WA Emergency Management Department (EMD), Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC), the WA Assoc. of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs WASPC), the Department of Health (DOH) , and the Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS).

This funding will make it possible to update and improve our current School Safety Manual, generate a library of renew/refresher training materials and to provide training to all 295 LEAs. The grant will make it possible to:

1. Revise and update the existing School Safety Planning Manual,
2. Develop a library of digital safety-related resources and training materials,
3. Establish the framework for a statewide “school safety corps,” and
4. Provide safety planning training to all 295 LEAs in WA.

The Committee discussed the initial Activity Grid (work Plan) and grant budget. We talked about the need for overall/overarching coordination within and among participants. Mike noted that he and Dixie were already having conversations about the Aware grant, and how that work fits with this work. All of this can lead to establishing a statewide safety-corps with the ESDs as hubs.

The Committee talked about this initial list for a library of digital safety-related resources and training materials. Mike explained that the idea here was to have a growing and evolving set of review/refresher materials which would be used as 1) back-up to more fully fleshed out trainings, and as 2) the basis for staff conversations on safety-related school issues. The starter list included:

1. Bullying 101
2. CPTED
3. CSEC – Trafficking
4. Digital Safety
5. Intro to Active Shooter
6. Intro to ICS
7. Intro to NIMS
8. Intro to Run, Hide, Fight
9. Intro to Laws & Policies
10. Steps in developing a High Quality School Safety Plan
11. Intro to Suicide Prevention & intervention

Mike asked everyone to think about what other topics and issues might be included. Preliminary additional topics from our conversation were:

1. Intro to Rapid responder
2. Intro to Reunification
3. Intro to Social Media Use (for Staff and Students)

Mike also noted that he’d had the first conversation to set up the budget for the grant. The next steps included meeting with all the stakeholders and beginning the RPQ process.

There were some other updates: Craig updated the group on trainings he was providing. Peggy noted that Pierce County Emergency Management met with school people on a monthly basis, a good working model of collaboration.

Frank adjourned the meeting right about noon.

The next meeting will be November 6, 2014 – OSPI

ADD TO Upcoming Events:

October – Dec, 2014. DOH School Environmental Health & Safety Workshops (See separate flier)

October 16, 2014. [The Great Washington ShakeOut](#): 10.16 @ 10:16

October 27 - 28, 2014. [Washington Educator’s Conference](#), DoubleTree, SeaTac.

November 7 – 9, 2014. [WA School Safety Conference & Summit](#), Red Lion, Olympia.

November 16 – 18, 2014. [International Bullying Prevention Association Conference](#), San Diego, CA

November 19 – 22, 2014. [WSSDA Annual Conference](#), Spokane

Meeting Calendar:

**School Safety Advisory Committee
2014 Calendar**



**Preliminary Meeting Calendar:
First Thursday of the Month
9:00 – Noon**

Month	SSAC	Location
2014:		
Aug.	7 th	Franklin Pierce SD
Sept.	No Meeting	
Oct.	2 nd	AWSP
Nov.	6 th	OSPI - Brouillet
Dec.	4 th	OSPI - Annex
2015:		
Jan	1 st * - TBD	OSPI - Brouillet
Feb.	5 th	OSPI - Annex
Mar.	5 th	TBD
Apr.	2 nd	TBD
May	7 th	TBD
June	4 th	TBD
July	No Meeting	---