

School Safety Advisory Committee
January 7, 2016 Meeting Notes



SSAC Chair Tim Garchow welcomed everyone at 9:00. Today, along with everyone present in the room, there were 4 additional participating via GoTo Meeting.

The meeting started with a few brief updates:

- Several REMS Threat Assessment Trainings were delivered in December at ESDs 121, 171 and 101.
- [Anti-HIB Work Group](#) sunset as of January 1 after 5 years of efforts to maintain the focus on HIB and address the tasks assigned by the Legislature.
- OSPI is developing a very user-friendly SHB 1240 Restraint & Isolation data reporting process. Tim suggested also including data on students with behavior plans.
- Tim reported on the December 3 Work Session. The group got a lot done on the development of the cost tool for mandated safety efforts for prototypical schools.
- Mike noted that he'd be attending the Cascadia Rising seminar on Friday, January 8.

The focus topic for this first meeting of 2016 was **"terrorism"**, specifically what districts and schools should know and know how to do. The topic came up post the San Bernardino terrorist attack in December. Although districts and schools do plan for a variety of threats and hazards, build lockdown and shelter-in-place drills into their calendars, and practice active shooter or bomb threat scenarios, we had not focused in, directly, on potential terrorist threats to schools.

The SSAC invited the [Washington State Fusion Center \(WSFC\)](#) and the [Seattle Police Department](#) to come and speak with us on the issue. The WSFC serves as the State's single Fusion Center to detect, deter, and prevent terrorist attacks and significant criminal activity. The Fusion Center perform threat assessment and information management services, including supporting protection of critical infrastructure and key resources, and provides support to all hazards preparation, planning, response and recovery efforts

The SSAC was very happy to have Sergeant Debra Winsor and Intelligence Analyst Jan Mondale of the WA State Fusion Center, and Seattle Police Department Assistant Chief Perry Tarrant with us to share their expertise and answer questions. Jan Mondale's **informative presentation** is posted on our [SSAC meeting web page](#) along with a list of open source websites and tools which she also shared.

The presentation led into discussions around student mental health issues, early warning signs, universal screenings and the need to address all of these.

Some specific take-aways from the discussions around terrorism and shooters:

- A distinction between **active shooters** and **rampage shooters**. Briefly, an active shooter may target a school, but is not a student while a rampage shooter is a student in the school.
- We **can't predict or prepare for a terrorist** (or active shooter) attack. Therefore, our efforts need to be on mitigation and response/protection – and ultimately recovery.

- **Know and recognize warning signs** of radicalization.
- The importance of “**See something; say something**” in response to leakage. (And by extension, the need to have reporting protocols.)
- Be aware of **access to firearms**.
- The critical importance of **collaboration** between education and law enforcement.

To report to the Washington State Fusion Center:

- <http://nwwarn.org>
- Hotline: 877-843-9522
- Email: intake@wsfc.wa.gov

Also see the Seattle PD [Real Time Crime Center \(RTCC\)](#)

Information sources on school shootings:

- Langman, P. [Rampage school shooters: A typology](#); *The Social Science Journal* (14, 79-86) (2009)
- Newman, K. S. [Rampage: The Social Roots of School Shootings](#); New York: Basic Books (2004)
- Rocque, M. [Exploring school rampage shootings: Research, theory and policy](#); *The Social Science Journal* (49, 304-313) (2012)
- Seeger, Thorsten (ed.). [School Shootings: International Research, Case Studies, and Concepts for Prevention](#). New York: Springer (2012)

Related websites of interest:

- www.i-intelligence.eu/resources/links
- <http://toddington.com/resources>
- <http://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=49>
- <http://journalistsresource.org/studies/government/criminal-justice/mass-murder-shooting-sprees-and-rampage-violence-research-roundup>

The Advisory Committee was happy to know that Chief Tarrant, Sgt. Winsor and Analyst Mondale are interested in continued involvement with the SSAC. After a brief round of updates, and sincere thanks to our guests, the meeting was adjourned at noon.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Safety Advisory Committee is **Thursday, March 3**. However, with the Legislature in session, the SSAC will plan to meet on Thursday, **February 4, 2016**. Tentatively, the location for that meeting will be the **Rainier School District**.