

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 5, 2018
SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS
COMMISSION MEETING**

March 5, 2018

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission was called to order at 2:03 p.m. at the Washoe County School District Central Administration Building, 425 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

1.02 Roll Call

Chair Lisa Ruggerio and Commission Members Darin Balaam, Amber Joiner, Manuel Mederos, Michael Munda, Scot Munns, Jim Nadeau, Charlene Bybee and Tyler Johnson were present. Commission Members Misty Vaughan Allen, Marci Burke, and Mia Mansfield were present through phone conference. Commission Member Diane Nicolet was not present at the time of roll call. Commission Member Jeff Frame was absent from the meeting.

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

School Police Chief Jason Trevino led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Charlene Bybee led the group in 17 seconds of silence in memory of those who were lost in the shooting in the Parkland School District.

1.04 Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

1.05 Action to Adopt the Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Balaam and seconded by Commissioner Nadeau that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission approves the agenda as presented.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Misty Vaughan Allen, Darin Balaam, Marci Burke, Charlene Bybee, Amber Joiner, Tyler Johnson, Mia Mansfield, Manuel Mederos, Michael Munda, Scot Munns, Jim Nadeau, Diane Nicolet, and Lisa Ruggerio). Final Resolution: Motion Carries

2. Updates

2.01 Community Recognitions – New School Police Officer Ceremonial Swearing-In

New School Police Officer Quinton Flury was sworn in by Chief Jason Trevino and was presented with a certificate of recognition.

2.02 Community Recognitions – Washoe County School District Nutrition Services Department

Chief Operating Officer Pete Etchart introduced the Nutrition Services Department staff, including Lianka Soliz the new director and commended them for their hard work. They were presented with a certificate of recognition.

2.03 Chair Report

Chair Ruggerio provided the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission with information related to events and meetings in the community and District relevant to the Commission.

2.02 Student Representative Update

Tyler Johnson provided the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission with information related to discussions and meetings from the Student Advisory Board.

3. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action

3.01 Information and Discussion on the upcoming community safety forum, to include: format, topics to be presented, and presenters.

David Lasic, Chief of Staff, mentioned that the Student Voice Conference and Data Summit had to be rescheduled due to snow. He said that the only option for a new date was April 27, in conjunction with the Safety Forum which was already scheduled for that day.

Irene Payne, Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, spoke about the opportunities for the Commission if the two events were to be combined. The Commissioners stated they would like to add the Safety Forum to the end of the Student Voice/Data Summit so that it continued to be open for the public and parents, and also participate in a morning panel of the Student Voice/Data Summit.

Ms. Payne mentioned that there was already a student-led session focused on school safety that the Commissioners could participate in.

Chair Ruggerio asked that the forum be filmed and that staff report back to the Commission about how the forum went.

Ms. Payne stated that she would be providing the schedule and material to Commission members and asked that the Commission reach out to their networks to invite families and community members.

3.02 Information, update, and discussion from School Police on school safety and security concerns in the Washoe County School District schools

Jason Trevino, Chief of School Police, provided an update on the project to number all doors on District buildings. He stated that the Safety Audit recommended a universal door numbering system that would help first responders know where to go during emergencies. He would be meeting with other local officials to determine the scope of the project.

The Commission discussed the need to educate parents and students about how to report safety concerns and other tips. Chief Trevino stated that social media could cause rumors to spread and urged people to report concerns to School Police instead of sharing on social media. He stated that reports could be made to School Police, 911, local non-emergency dispatch numbers, Secret Witness, and Safe Voice. Secret Witness could be accessed via text and Safe Voice could be accessed via text, phone, or through a phone app.

Brandon Bringham, Principal, Lou Mendive Middle School, spoke about an incident where a family saw a threat on social media and reported to the police and the principal. Information was able to be sent to the families at Mendive Middle School. Area Superintendent Joe Ernst also commended Mendive Middle School staff for working together to address the tip.

Chief Trevino spoke about the importance to not take a single approach when determining school safety issues. Dr. Kristen McNeill, Deputy Superintendent, agreed and spoke about the need for a comprehensive approach that included mental health, teacher and principal education, and school-wide debriefs.

3.03 Approval to recommend to the Board of Trustees the third renewal of the contract with School Safety Advocacy Council in the amount of \$115,000, to include an update from School Safety Advocacy Council on the status of recommendations from the District-wide safety audit

Jim Hendrickson, Emergency Manager, gave a brief history of the safety audits performed by the School Safety Advocacy Council, which had occurred for two years. He stated that half the schools have been visited. He spoke about the door numbering project being complete at Bernice Mathews Elementary School, and stated that the next year's audit would allow them to complete door numbering at other elementary schools as well. He also stated that the Request for Proposals for an updated Visitor Management System was underway, and that trainings at individual schools had been happening and would continue to happen. The plan for the following year would be for the School Safety Advocacy Council to continue auditing the remaining schools in the District, most of which were elementary schools, and conduct re-checks of some of the schools that had been previously audited.

Sean Burke, President of the School Safety Advocacy Council, said that the Washoe County School District was an example for what other school districts should do. He spoke about the importance of implementing District-wide procedures at all schools. Staff trainings continued to be important, and could make the students feel safer if they knew their teachers were being trained.

Chair Lisa Ruggerio spoke about the importance of having an outside agency audit safety practices and procedures because they had fresh eyes and made new recommendations. Commissioner Nicolet recommended that continuing education credits could be provided to staff members for participating in safety trainings.

It was moved by Commissioner Joiner and seconded by Commissioner Mederos that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission approves the third renewal of the contract with the School Safety Advocacy Council in the amount of \$115,000.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Misty Vaughan Allen, Darin Balaam, Marci Burke, Charlene Bybee, Amber Joiner, Tyler Johnson, Mia Mansfield, Manuel Mederos, Michael Munda, Scot Munns, Jim Nadeau, Diane Nicolet, and Lisa Ruggerio). Final Resolution: Motion Carries

3.04 Discussion on possible agenda topics for future meetings of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission and requests for information

Commissioner Mederos requested to see a report from the Bullying Conference.

Commissioner Nicolet requested a deep dive discussion on tracking sheets.

Commissioner Munns requested a discussion about having regular items placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Bybee requested updates on local, state, and national safety concerns, including legislative and legal updates.

Commissioner Mederos requested a presentation from counseling about mental health of students.

Commissioner Mansfield requested that a discussion about the budget.

Commissioner Johnson requested a discussion about using the Strength in Voices data.

4. Closing Items

4.01 Public Comment

Joanna O'Bear stated that her 9-year-old didn't feel safe at Bud Beasley Elementary School so she put together a survey to ask other students if they felt safe. The majority of students said they didn't feel safe. When the survey was presented to the principal, Ms. O'Bear claimed that her child was punished. She stated there was a lack of communication about incidents and codes at the school and recommended that schools hold more drills.

4.02 Next Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission would be held on May 7, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Central Administration Building.

4.03 Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to come before the members of the Commission, Chair Ruggiero declared the meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Lisa Ruggiero, Chair