

## NOTES

October 6, 2020

1:30 – 3:30 PM

Virtual meeting due to COVID-19



**COLORADO**

**School Safety Resource Center**

Department of Public Safety

### Meeting Attendees:

#### Advisory Board Members:

#### On Google Meets Hangout:

Kelly Abbott	Lorrie Odom
Sarah Brummett	Kathy Plomer
Greg Busch	Sheldon Rosenkrance
Steve Fast	Jenny Schoen
Jamie Haukeness	Meghan Shelton
Kelly Jacobsen	Carolena Steen
Christina Larson	Melanie Voegeli-Morris
Matt Lewis	Chris Wilderman

#### Absent:

Michael Dougherty  
Essi Ellis  
Mark Pokorny

#### Staff Present:

Christine Harms, Director  
Brad Stiles, Emergency Response Outreach Consultant  
Margaret Ochoa, CSA Prevention Specialist  
Dustin Hunter, School Outreach Consultant  
Isaac Baah, Resource Specialist  
Melissa Rubeo, Program Assistant  
Kati Garner, NW Regional Training Consultant  
Jamie Soucie, NE Regional Training Consultant

#### Guests:

Stacey Dodge in place of Essi Ellis

### Welcome and Advisory Board Business – *Chris Wilderman, Chair*

- The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm by the Chairperson, Chris Wilderman.
- Director Harms shared that we had received a new board appointment to replace Dave Young, Mr. Michael Doherty the District Attorney for Boulder County. Unfortunately, Mr. Doherty was unable to attend this meeting as he was scheduled in court but is looking forward to participating in future meetings.
- A motion was made by Sarah Brummett and seconded by Jenny Shoen and carried to approve the notes from the August 4, 2020 meeting as written.

### **CSSRC Activities- - Staff**

- **Kati Garner**, North West Regional Training Consultant, provided an update on the virtual trainings that the Center has been providing including Sexting Prevention, Classroom Management, Threat Assessment Basic Concepts and more. The virtual trainings are all about an hour in length and attendees receive continuing education credit for their participation. Center staff continue these on Mondays and Fridays but districts are encouraged to ask for workshops for their staff as well. The Center has virtually trained over 1600 people at this point and the attendees appreciate being able to attend without traveling.
- **Brad Stiles**, Emergency Response Outreach Consultant, provided an update on the STOP threat assessment grant the Center has been working on since October 2019. Last spring and summer, the Center finished the initial pilot sites and made modifications to the documents and training based on the early work. The final phase of the grant work will include training 30 additional schools. The Center has also been working with the Governor's Office of Information Technology to create an online threat assessment protocol that schools will be able to utilize for their documents even beyond the life of the grant.
- **Melissa Rubeo**, Program Assistant, shared feedback from the recent training that was hosted by the Center for the ILoveUGuys team and conducted by Mr. John Michael Keyes. There were approximately 262 people in attendance virtually to be trained on the SRP updates that have recently been released.
- **Isaac Baah**, Resource Specialist, shared that in place of the annual Colorado Safe School Summit, the Center will be hosting a Speakers' Series that will include four keynote speakers through the month of October. The series started on October 2nd with Dr. Marc Schoen and will continue through October 9, 16, and 23rd on Zoom. All Board members are invited to attend.
- **Jamie Soucie**, North East Regional Training Consultant, shared information on the upcoming Suicide Toolkit Training CSSRC is hosting on November 19th. The trainer will be Terri Erbacher Ph.D., who collaborated on the suicide toolkit that the Center created. Dr. Erbacher will walk participants through the toolkit. At this point there are 94 individuals registered for the free virtual training.
- **Dustin Hunter**, School Outreach Consultant, provided an update regarding the Youth Engaged in School Safety (YES<sup>2</sup>) program. Mr. Hunter and Ms. Ochoa met with the students in September to discuss the project topics the students are interested in for this year as well as the upcoming Student and Staff Safety Summit. This year's Student Staff Safety Summit will include a Denver FBI Victim Specialist, a student from the Denver area that started a non-profit to provide resources and donations to anti-human trafficking groups, and a plenary on Equity, Diversity and Inclusiveness (EDI) by Ersaleen Hope of the Division of Criminal Justice. The YES<sup>2</sup> students will present their chosen project(s) to the Board during the April 2021 meeting.
- **Margaret Ochoa**, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Specialist, updated the Board on the scheduled Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Intervention Symposium that will be held on February 4, 2021. This virtual, free event will have speakers from the Division of Academia and Law Enforcement, a criminologist to address pornography and youth, and more.
- **Christine Harms** reminded the Board that each year the Center produces a Legislative Report that includes training statistics from the previous year, counts on resources provided and more. This year's report will be completed by December and ready to go to the Education and Judiciary Committees of the Colorado Legislation for the new year. The Center will provide a copy of the completed report to the board members at the February meeting.

### Advisory Board Member Updates

- **Carolena Steen**, Assistant Superintendent of Cheyenne Mountain School District, shared that her district has been working extremely hard to begin operating in their hybrid models and keep their calendars up to date. There was a dramatic decrease in preschool registration this school year.
- **Kelly Abbott**, Manager of the Office of Adult & Juvenile Justice Assistance within the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ), shared that the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Council met recently to set the priorities for the next three years. They went through quite a bit of data to narrow it down to three different areas to explore and their goal for their next meeting is to narrow it down again. The three topics being considered are violent crimes, school referrals to law enforcement, especially in the wake of controversy over SROs in schools, and suspensions and expulsions of students. Other options for student discipline including restorative practices are being discussed.
- **Kathy Plomer**, a member of both the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) and Adams 12 School Board, reported CASB is focusing on COVID support for schools. CASB continues to support districts with openings and each district's individual needs to keep students safe.
- **Greg Busch**, the Emergency Management Director for the Colorado Community College System, shared that even with all of the challenges the COVID-19 virus is causing, there has been a low outbreak within the community college system, so far. They are working with local public health agencies to slow the spread and keep the numbers from climbing.
- **Jamie Haukeness**, Principal of Cortez Middle School and District Safety Director, stated that the students in his district are extremely happy to be back to in-person classes. At this point his schools have only had one diagnosed case of COVID but to ensure the safety of students and staff in the buildings, the district has hired extra full time staff to clean high traffic areas of the schools. His team is also working to ensure safety plans, drills, and reunification processes are being reviewed and kept up to date.
- **Melanie Voegeli-Morris**, the Mental Health and Prevention Coordinator for the Poudre School District, shared that her district is on their second day of hybrid learning. They will have students in grades 3-12 return to in person on the 19th of October. The district is providing resiliency training for all educators.
- **Sheldon Rosenkrance**, Superintendent of Estes Park School District (EPSD), stated that his district began in-person learning last week. Mr. Rosenkrance highlighted the issue of “lost children” in many of Colorado’s districts. These are students that are not engaged in any school related activities and unable to be located and tracked. He believes the inequity of healthcare plays a role in the lives of these unaccounted for students. Fortunately, they are not having this problem in his district although he is hearing about it from many of his colleagues.
- **Jenny Schoen**, Littleton Public Schools, said her district is currently trying to address the missing students as well. At this point her school has been doing in-person learning for approximately seven weeks and it has gone well. There is also a concern about how best to address the needs of students on IEPs. Other board members voiced their concerns on this issue too since even in a virtual world, addressing the needs of students with disabilities is still necessary and required.
- **Christina Larson**, Field Services Manager for the Colorado Department of Education, stated her agency is also concerned about missing students along with the ramifications on the October count. The agency is also working to address the issues with dropout numbers, funding, requirements around quarantining and guidelines for returning to school after a positive test result.
- **Steve Fast**, Executive Director of Colorado School District Self Insurance Pool (CSDSIP), stated that CSDSIP is working to provide resources on safety and risk management questions. There has been an

increase in questions related to staff not returning to work due to illness or being fearful to return. They are hoping to move safety concerns and questions into an online format as well.

- **Sheriff Matt Lewis**, Mesa County, said that they are dealing with many of the same concerns in their jails that the schools are facing. These include quarantine issues, space concerns, and others. They are currently working in the jails to limit admissions and maintain safety, which is an ongoing struggle.
- **Stacey Dodge**, Safe2Tell (S2T) Operations Manager, shared that while their team is working remotely, they too have been very busy. In September they held the stakeholder webinar to discuss the proposed response to HB20-1113. At this point, it states that Safe2Tell will devise a process to standardize protocol for mental health or substance related calls to be sent to Colorado Crisis Services. On another note, Safe2Tell was awarded Cares funding so they created two new public service announcements (PSAs) which were released in September and will run for approximately two months. There will be a third PSA that will be released to radio and television after the election is complete. Safe2Tell also released their annual report on September 29th that covered tip data over the past year.
- **Lorrie Odom**, Vice President for Programs with the Colorado PTA, shared that during recent board meetings there has been a request from parents to have help with relieving stress especially related to helping students with remote learning while working from home. Ms. Odom also shared that tomorrow there will be a webinar from the Parents Against Vaping Electronic Cigarettes with Dr. Jonathan Avery who is an expert in addiction psychiatry. (The Center will send out the information tomorrow morning.)
- **Sarah Brummett**, Director of the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP) within the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE), shared that her office is receiving a lot of media requests regarding what they are seeing in suicide fatalities during COVID. She wanted to share that they are not seeing a rise in fatalities this year compared to last year, but what they are seeing is an increase in overdose fatalities in younger adults.  
On a positive note, their new healthy youth campaign, Forward Together, has items schools can put in newsletters with resources focusing on connectedness. They also have a book for younger children regarding how to talk to adults about mental health concerns and what adults can watch for in youngsters. Also, OSP has free gatekeeper training licenses for an online workshop that is similar to QPR but offered instead through Livingworks entitled, START. (Sarah will send info to be emailed out to board members tomorrow.)
- **Kelly Jacobsen**, School Resource Officer with Westminster Police Department, shared that lately there has been a lot of conversation within law enforcement agencies regarding how to support schools while everyone is working remotely, including the SROs. Ofc. Jacobsen also shared that SB20-217 (wearing of body cameras) is currently going to affect how SROs can operate because most of the contacts they make are initiated by the officer. This is causing law enforcement agencies to try to make modifications to the bill to share with the legislature.
- **Mr. Wilderman** asked for any final thoughts from the CSSRC staff. Ms. Harms added that the YES<sup>2</sup> students specifically asked for an EDI workshop at the Student/Staff Summit. She also mentioned that at some of the Communities of Practice meetings with school mental health providers that schools are also reporting increased numbers of homeless students. In response to the article in the Denver Post on S2T, Ms. Harms mentioned that in 2020, less than 3% of the tips to S2T were tips from students needing assistance. In most cases it was students calling for help for a friend. And finally, she reminded board members that the 2019 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey data is now available and of special concern are the increases in vaping numbers.
- **Wilderman** commented on the increased number of board members who have been able to attend virtual meetings and said that will need to be considered when in-person meetings are again possible. He then thanked everyone for attending and participating and ended the meeting at 2:53 PM.

The next meeting on February 2nd is also expected to be virtual.

**Next Scheduled  
Meetings:**  
February 2, 2021  
April 6, 2021  
August 3, 2021