

**NOTES**  
**August 2, 2022**  
**1:30 – 3:30 PM**  
**Virtual meeting**



**Meeting Attendees:**

**Advisory Board Members:**

**Present on Google Meets:**

Kelly Abbott  
Todd Bittner  
Greg Busch  
Michael Dougherty  
Lena Heilmann  
Craig Hein  
Kelly Jacobsen  
Stacey Jenkins  
Christina Larson  
Jane Lineman  
Lindley McCrary  
Lorrie Odom  
Mark Pokorny  
Meghan Shelton

**Absent:**

Kevin Armstrong  
Carolena Guiral Steen  
Rebecca Hall  
Jenny Schoen  
Chris Wilderman

**Staff Present:**

Christine Harms, Director  
Brad Stiles, Emergency Response Outreach Consultant  
Margaret Ochoa, CSA Prevention Specialist  
Melissa Rubeo, Program Assistant  
Isaac Baah, Resource Specialist

**Staff Absent:**

Kati Garner & Ron Lee were presenting at a national conference.

**Welcome and Advisory Board Business – Christine Harms, Director**

- The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by CSSRC Director, Christine Harms as Chairperson Wilderman was unable to attend.
- Ms. Harms requested that all attendees provide a brief introduction. The board welcomed Todd Bittner, the Norwood Superintendent and newest board member.
- The Board reviewed meeting notes from the April 5, 2022, meeting. A motion was made by Officer Kelly Jacobsen to approve the notes as written and was seconded by Lorrie Odom, MD. The motion was carried by a majority.
- Director Harms shared that the Center is currently working on eight appointments and reappointments for the Board over the summer.

**Legislative Updates - CSSRC Staff and Board Members**

- Ms. Harms and board members shared legislative updates.

- **SB22-085 (Safe Student Protection Program)** This bill was previously introduced in 2020 specifying a vendor to assist schools in bus safety technology. This year the bill was written for facilitation by Colorado Department of Education (CDE) but the bill lost.
- **HB22-1003 (Delinquency Prevention Community Grants)** The request for proposals was just released.
  - Unfortunately schools were removed from the original bill and would only qualify for the funding if they partner with a community agency that qualifies.
  - Kelly Abbott shared that she is trying to find the reasoning behind removing schools from the direct eligibility list but encourages schools to partner with their other community agencies to do some programming.
  - There is preference given to applicants that put a collaborative effort forward in their project. The local collaborative management programs or juvenile services planning committees are both named as eligible recipients in the bill. Those committees should have school representation on them for each county or judicial district. Questions can be directed to Kelly Abbott as she is the main point of contact for this bill. [kelly.abbott@state.co.us](mailto:kelly.abbott@state.co.us)
- **HB22-1052 (Promoting Crisis Services To Students)** “Concerning promoting behavioral health crisis services to school-age students, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.” Stacey Jenkins shared that moving forward every school based student ID will contain the contact information for Colorado Crisis Services as well as Safe2Tell.
- **HB22-1106 (Concealed Handguns on School Grounds)** This bill would have allowed concealed handgun permit holders to carry concealed handguns on school grounds. This bill did not progress through the session.
- **HB22-1120 (School Security Disbursement Grants)** “Concerning the recreation of the school security disbursement program to provide funding for local education providers to implement school security improvements to prevent incidents of school violence.” This bill was signed with an appropriation of \$6 Million. When the Center receives more information they will share the RFP with the school superintendents and BOCES directors.
- **HB22-1131 (Reduce Justice-involvement For Young Children)** “Concerning measures to reduce justice-involvement for young children, and, in connection therewith, focus on prevention and age-appropriate interventions and making an appropriation.” A task force was organized “to examine gaps in services for juveniles who are 10 years of age or older but under 13 years of age, if any, that would be created if the minimum age of prosecution of juveniles is increased from 10 years of age to 13 years of age, and to make recommendations for addressing any gaps in services identified.”
- **HB22-1202 (At-risk Student Measure For School Finance)** “Concerning the creation of a new measure in the public school funding formula for identifying at-risk students, and, in connection therewith, creating a working group in the department of education to implement the new measure in a future budget year and making an appropriation.” Lindley McCrary shared that she has been appointed to represent the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) with this working group.
- **HB22 - 1240 (Mandatory Reporters)** “Concerning enhancing mandatory reporting for people required to report child abuse, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.” A task force was created “to analyze best practices and recommend changes to training requirements and reporting procedures for people required by law to report child abuse or neglect.”
- **HB22-1274 (School Safety Working Group)** This committee was scheduled to sunset but since no funding was provided originally, the legislature continued the working group with funding for the Division of Criminal Justice. The bill specifies the membership of the committee.
- **HB22-1275 (CSSRC Advisory Board Sunset)** The Center’s Advisory Board was scheduled to sunset. With DORA’s recommendation, the Advisory Board will continue indefinitely.

## **CSSRC Activities - CSSRC Staff**

- Director Harms shared an update on the activities of the Center.
  - Recently, the Center's Resource Specialist, Isaac Baah, became an American citizen. Ms. Harms was able to attend the ceremony along with Brad Stiles and his children and Ron Lee to celebrate Isaac's accomplishment. Congratulations, Isaac!
  - The Center is currently in the process of hiring a North East and South East Regional Training Consultant for the Center. There is an excellent pool of applicants and interviews will be held over the next week. Director Harms thanked board member Jane Lineman for taking time out of her busy schedule to review the initial application recordings and provide comments.
  - The Center has had their busiest summer ever utilizing the time to update online courses and create new workshops, update resource materials, send staff to present at national conferences and continue the NIJ grant training.
  - The Center hosted a two-day PREPaRE workshop on June 27 and 28, in collaboration with the DeAngelis Foundation. We thank the DeAngelis Foundation for their collaboration and support.
  
- Margaret Ochoa provided updates on the School Safety Specialist Academy and the Youth Engaged in School Safety (YES<sup>2</sup>) Council:
  - The 2022 School Safety Specialist Academy consisted of 20 hours of training on foundational school safety content. The Center brought in trusted speakers and collaborated with partners from Safe2Tell, CDE, CDPHE, CSPV, the DeAngelis Foundation (Jeffco Public Schools), the i love guys Foundation, CASRO, and community partners from Centennial Mental Health and Moffat County Schools. Sixteen individuals from across the state became School Safety Specialists and they sent heartfelt emails to the Center thanking them for the information provided.
  - The Youth Engaged in School Safety (YES<sup>2</sup>) Council for 2022-2023 consists of 12 students from the following high schools: Dakota Ridge, Rock Canyon, Steamboat, Swink, Akron, Lakewood, and Palmer Ridge. The council's orientation was held virtually on July 29, 2022. The Center was able to share presentations from multiple agencies within CDPS including the Department of Criminal Justice, Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Colorado Bureau of Investigations, Division of Fire Prevention and Control, and State Patrol.
  
- Brad Stiles provided an update on the Institutions of Higher Education Summer Safety Symposium. The 2022 event was held virtually and there was greater participation than years past with a total of 285 impressions thanks to the hard work of Ms. Ochoa and Mr. Baah. There were presentations on Title IX, Dealing with Difficult People, Preventing Targeted Violence, Intimate Image Abuse, and the Center's new Crisis Response Guidelines.
  
- Mr. Stiles also provided an update on the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) event which was held the week of July 4th in Denver. There were approximately 1500 attendees which made this event the second largest NASRO event in their history. Many attendees made a point to share their appreciation for great information that was provided. Mr. Stiles, as a member of the CASRO board, assisted. Dr. Lee experienced the NASRO basic SRO training and Ms. Garner presented a well-received workshop. All three CSSRC trainers then participated in the initial training of Project Unite. This is the work of NASRO and CSPV and will be ready to roll out to school districts later in this school year.
  
- Director Harms shared that there were three Campus Safety Conferences, the East, Southern, and West, happening over the summer and Center staff Ron Lee and Kati Garner were requested to present at each conference.
  
- Ms. Harms also shared an update on decision items within the Department of Public Safety:

- During COVID 19, the Center’s funding was removed from the general fund and the Center was sustained with money in a CSSRC Cash fund. During the 2022 legislative session, the Center’s budget was returned to the general fund.
- The STOP Grant continues until June 2023. Funding has included hiring a vendor to create an online version of the CTAMP. The online version is close to completion and training should begin in August with the grantees. The Center is exploring ongoing subscription funding for this project in several ways.
- The Governor’s office requested that the Center’s 2022 budget decision item include funding to provide regional workshops at no-cost to school personnel. Although originally 10 regional trainings were discussed, the Center staff met for strategic planning in June and has scheduled thirteen workshops either virtual or in-person across the state. The list includes:
  - Safe Schools Summit - October 20 - 21, 2022
  - Youth Suicide Prevention & Intervention - November 15, 2022
  - Student Staff Safety Summit, Colorado Springs - November 29, 2022
  - Student Staff Safety Summit, La Junta - December 1, 2022
  - Western Colorado Safety Summit, Grand Junction - December 7, 2022
  - Student Staff Safety Summit, Hayden - December 8, 2022
  - Speaker Series Virtual - January 10, 17, 24, 2023
  - San Luis Valley Safety Summit, Alamosa - January 26, 2023
  - Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention Symposia, Pueblo & South Denver- February 8 and 10, 2023
  - Institutions of Higher Education Summer Safety Symposium, Loveland/Greeley - June 1, 2023
  - Virtual School Safety Specialist Academy - June 12, 2023
- Director Harms shared some information about the upcoming Safe Schools Summit in October. Many individuals have expressed interest in attending events in-person while others prefer virtual, so the Center will be hosting the first day of the Summit in-person with the presentations live-streamed. Day two will be completely virtual with 30 different workshops available to participants. The Center is excited about the new equipment that has been purchased by CDPS to allow events to be livestreamed and includes three wireless cameras, multiple microphones, and a central control unit.
- Margaret Ochoa shared that the upcoming Student Staff Safety Summits will be similar to previous years.
  - The topics will be decided upon by the students on the YES<sup>2</sup> council as well as information provided by staff in the schools.
  - The Center is inviting teams of six students with their faculty chaperones from middle and high schools.
  - The summits will be from 10 am - 2 pm to allow for district transportation to the events.

## **Advisory Board Members’ Updates**

### **Denver Public Schools**

- **Dr. Jane Lineman**, Student Safety Coordinator with Denver Public Schools (DPS), shared that the district will be providing PREPaRE Workshops One and Two with a representative from every Denver high school. They are revising their crisis response protocols. They are also providing community workshops in the wake of shootings in Denver being mindful of various cultural issues in their neighborhoods.
- The Second Wind Fund walk is scheduled for September 25, 2022 and all participants are welcome.
- The National Association of School Psychologists recently released a position paper on school violence prevention.

- DPS will be hosting more events partnering with the Denver Department of Public Health. The events will include information on mental health, suicide prevention, and overall wellness. DPS is looking to put together five new community hubs.
- Lineman also shared that there will be a short event on September 6, 2022, at the University of Denver on the role of technology, youth and mental health.

#### **Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health**

- **Meghan Shelton**, Program Manager, provided an update on the changes that have been happening recently in her department. The Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) is the newest government agency with its executive director sitting on the Governor's Cabinet. This agency was established on July 1, 2022. This has meant that the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH), previously a stand-alone office in the Department of Human Services (CDHS), is now within the BHA. There was concern at CSSRC that the mental health position on the CSSRC Advisory Board required an appointment from CDHS. After a review by the Office of Legislative Legal Services, they are satisfied that someone appointed to the CSSRC Advisory Board from BHA still meets the requirements of the statute. This is because the BHA was established within CDHS which was not immediately apparent. No changes to the CSSRC Advisory Board bylaws are now necessary.

#### **Westminster Police Department**

- **Officer Kelly Jacobsen**, School Resource Officer and officer of the Colorado Association of School Resource Officers (CASRO), shared that **HB 22-1376 Supportive Learning Environments For K-12 Students**, section seven has information regarding the role of SROs. The Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) office will now be creating a model policy and will seek a volunteer SRO to help write the policy. Kelly has volunteered as a representative of CASRO as well as a NASRO trainer to assist POST in creating this model policy. Another section of the bill covers the evaluation process for SROs. Data will be reported to the Colorado Department of Education. The bill will now require SROs to be certified through the National Association of School Resource Officers Basic SRO course.
- Director Harms shared that the Center submitted a grant this summer to the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) along with the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) and NASRO for \$2Million.
  - If they receive the funding, they will be able to roll out the SRO training Officer Jacobsen mentioned at no charge to the schools.
  - The Center also would be working with Stacey Jenkins from Safe2Tell on a pilot project for the trauma prevention program, Handle With Care.
  - Additional funding would be available for the Center's threat assessment work.
  - The final component would be the Project Unite training in Colorado.
  - We expect to learn the fate of the grant by October 1, 2022.

#### **Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool**

- **Craig Hein**, General counsel, shared that there are a number of upcoming safety related efforts at CSDSIP:
  - August 9, 2022, they are conducting two half-day all-staff SRP virtual programs with the I Love U Guys foundation which are open to all members
  - September 21, 2022, an in-person Basic Digital Threat Assessment training with Safer Schools Together
  - September 29, 2022, CSDSIP starts their monthly training on behavioral trends with Safer Schools Together
  - October 4, 2022, they will host a safety symposium that is currently untitled but will look at the STEM shooting, addressing fentanyl in schools, sexual abuse prevention module, and a presentation on Handle with Care.

### **Norwood School District**

- **Todd Bittner**, Superintendent, shared that the Uvalde shooting is a significant wake- up call to many of the rural communities. A lot of the security issues that were exemplified by the Uvalde shooting are present in probably 90% of small, rural schools. This statement is based on his past experience in three different rural school districts. He shared that his school district is working to make changes that will make their schools safer but the changes will take time. The superintendents are all working to find answers to problems that are new to them.

### **Colorado PTA**

- **Lorrie Odom, MD**, Co-Chair of the Health, Wellness, & Safety Committee for the Colorado PTA, commented that the National PTA meeting is hosting a national webinar this evening on gun safety and violence prevention. (Subsequently we discovered that the webinar was at capacity.)
- Dr. Odom shared that Tobacco Free Kids is hosting a webinar on August 18, 2022, on a very important issue - the intersection of nicotine addiction and mental health and targeting youth. It will be a free, virtual panel.
- One of the PTA members participates in the Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention Partnership which is offering six workshops in El Paso county starting August 24, 2022, on gun safety and preventing suicide with firearms with proper storage.
- The Colorado School Mental Health Community of Practice will be holding monthly sessions on Wednesdays from September to May, hosted by Sarah Youngren from 10 am - 11:30 am. This year they will be looking at a variety of school mental health best practices. (If you are interested, CSSRC staff can provide the calendar link.)

### **Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS), Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice**

- **Ms. Kelly Abbott**, Manager, OAJJA and CDPS representative on the Advisory Board from the Division of Criminal Justice, stated that in addition to the delinquency prevention and youth intervention grants previously mentioned, they have six more grants for release.
- DCJ just released an intent to apply for a Crime Prevention through Safer Streets grant and for communities with prevalent crime to submit proposals for environmental and infrastructure design projects.
- They will also have a crime prevention and crisis intervention grant coming out shortly that will be another opportunity for collaborative community based projects.
- There will be two law enforcement hiring, retention and training grants soon.
- Additionally, there will be a fentanyl death investigation grant for law enforcement.
- Please contact Kelly directly for more information. [kelly.abbott@state.co.us](mailto:kelly.abbott@state.co.us)

### **Colorado Department of Law**

- **Stacey Jenkins**, Director of Safe2Tell, shared that they hired a new trainer for all school workshops. Mr. Brett Cogswell started on July 18, 2022. Safe2Tell will post an opening for a law enforcement training position which will close on August 22, 2022.
- S2T staff have started work on their annual report which is expected to be finished by the end of October.
- The second ambassador program was successfully initiated. Safe2Tell has 14 student ambassadors, 4 are returning ambassadors. The main focus for their project this year will be how to make other students more aware of utilizing Safe2Tell.
- This year they are doing a materials redesign that corresponds with the new website. They plan to release the new materials later this fall.

### **CASB Board of Education**

- **Lindley McCrary**, CASB & Littleton Public Schools board member, shared that the CASB team is currently in a transition. Their Executive Director resigned and they have hired an interim executive director while searching for a permanent one.
- The Board is reviewing all of their policies and ensuring there is a focus on strengthening their advocacy at the state and national level.
- In Littleton Public Schools, as a result of the shooting in Uvalde, their security team spent time examining all of their current safety protocols and shoring up any weak spots.
- As a Board, they have also allocated a significant amount of money towards the mental and behavioral health support for students and staff. They know their students' wellbeing and mental health outcomes can be improved when students feel connected to their schools and communities. Therefore, the board is spending time at every meeting listening to students.
- Some members of their community came forward and wanted to build a community watchdog program. The community members wanted to be sure that students know how best to protect themselves outside of school. Staff are looking at scenarios for this. Ms. McCrary will share any updates with the CSSRC Advisory Board when available.

#### **District Attorney's Association**

- **Michael Dougherty**, District Attorney in the 18th Judicial District, shared they are continuing to reduce gun violence in Boulder County in a number of ways:
  - The district attorneys continue to work with state legislators and U.S. Congressman Joe Neguse on different pieces of legislation they want introduced.
  - The state legislature lifted preemption so local communities have the opportunity, if not the obligation, to take on responsibility for enacting gun ordinances with different restrictions in place.
  - Boulder County has started a promotional campaign to raise community awareness around safe storage of firearms. They have partnered with community organizations and a church to pass out gun locks and gun safes for handguns at no cost.
- In Boulder County they have had a spike in issues with high school kids driving recklessly or under the influence with deadly consequences so they are trying to raise community awareness around this as well.

#### **Department of Human Services, Behavioral Health Administration, Office of Behavioral Health**

- **Meghan Shelton**, Program Manager, shared that one of the priorities for the Behavioral Health Administration for children youth and families is focused on school mental health. They are looking at additional funding to continue developing programs for schools. The office is also looking at workforce development because workforce shortages in mental health are negatively affecting everyone involved.

#### **Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment/Office of Suicide Prevention**

- **Dr. Lena Heilmann**, Suicide Prevention Strategies Manager from the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP), shared that their Director Sarah Brummet took a position with the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. As of July 1, Dr. Heilmann took over as Director of the Office of Suicide Prevention. The office is still in the midst of hiring multiple staff members so there will be some changes over the next few weeks.
- The office has received continued funding from the Attorney General's Office to support Sources of Strength in schools. The office also has a school crisis grant that will soon be implemented.
- Once one of the new staff members has time to adjust to the position they will look at their state wide K-12 Suicide Prevention and Postvention Model and Policy.

#### **Colorado Community College System**

- **Greg Busch**, Emergency Management Director, shared that after the Uvalde crisis the Community College System took another look at what they could be doing across the state. He has put

together a list of proposals on how they can be more proactive in safety like utilizing different security systems or programs such as Zero Eyes.

- There is a list being brought to the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, and Community College Presidents before the fall semester to give them suggestions of five or six things they can choose from to increase safety efforts. While all tragedies cannot necessarily be stopped, they can be mitigated.

**Having no further updates, Director Harms** asked for final thoughts from the CSSRC staff. She then thanked the Board for their attendance today as well as their ongoing support and praised the work of the CSSRC staff.

The meeting was then adjourned at 3:02 pm with thanks to everyone in attendance.

**The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 1:30 and it will be virtual.**

**Next Scheduled Meetings:**  
October 4, 2022 - virtual  
February 7, 2023 - TBD  
April 4, 2023 - virtual