

NOTES
April 4, 2023
1:30 – 3:30 PM
Virtual meeting



Meeting Attendees:

Advisory Board Members: (checked)

Present on Google Meets:

Todd Bittner
Greg Busch
Michael Dougherty
Desiree Goheen
Rebecca Hall
Lena Heilmann
Craig Hein
Kelly Jacobsen

Stacey Jenkins
Jane Lineman
Christina Monaco
Lorrie Odom
Mark Pokorny
Meghan Shelton

Absent:

Kelly Abbott
Kevin Armstrong
Carolena Guiral Steen
Lindley McCrary
Chris Wilderman

Guests Present:

Rick Fox, Colorado Mesa University

Yes² Council Members

Tess Betman
Luis Carale
Lauren Coval
Isabel Long
Sam Lyall
Syvannah McGuire
Anna Nepomuceno
Amelie Wild
Hope Williams

Staff Present:

Christine Harms, Director
Brad Stiles, Emergency Response Outreach Consultant
Margaret Ochoa, CSA Prevention Specialist
Ron Lee, School Outreach Consultant
Kati Garner, NW Regional Training Consultant
Kelly Addington, SE Regional Training Consultant
Melissa Rubeo, Program Assistant

Welcome and Advisory Board Business – Christine Harms, Director

- The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by the Chair, Officer Kelly Jacobsen.
- Officer Jacobsen requested that all attendees provide a brief introduction. The board welcomed the guest attendee, Mr. Rick Fox and the YES² Council members.
- The board reviewed meeting notes from the February 7, 2023, meeting. A motion was made by Greg Busch to approve the notes as written and was seconded by Stacey Jenkins. The motion was carried by a majority.
- Director Harms shared that the School Outreach Consultant, Ron Lee, will be leaving the Center at the end of May 2023. While the staff are very excited for him and this next stage of his life, he will be missed greatly.

- Ron Lee stated that he has appreciated the time he has been working at the Center and he wishes good fortune to all of the Advisory Board members. He said that while he will miss many aspects of this work, it is time for retirement.

CSSRC Activities - CSSRC Staff

- Director Harms shared that the Center has hired a new North East Colorado Regional Training Consultant, but they are still going through the background process and have not yet given notice to their current employer so their name cannot be released. The Center is currently in the process of recruiting for Isaac Baah's previous position as Resource Specialist and the Center will now also be able to post for Dr. Lee's position. The goal of posting Dr. Lee's position before he has left is to give the new School Outreach Consultant some time to shadow Dr. Lee and get familiar with the job.
- Ms. Harms then provided an update on [SB23-241](#) which would create the new Office of School Safety. At this point, she is excited that everything that was requested in the Office has been included plus some additional components and there seems to be confidence in the bill passing.
- Director Harms then went on to remind the Board about upcoming events:
 - The Institutions of Higher Education Summer Safety Symposium. Although designed for higher education, there is applicable information for all from K - 12 to staff as well. It is being held on, June 1, 2023, at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley.
 - The Center is holding their third School Safety Specialist Academy this summer starting June 12, 2023. It will be five hours over five days and registration continues.
 - The Center has also received a second STOP Violence Grant and is using the funds to provide two School Resource Officer training in Thornton, CO July 17 - 21, 2023, and August 7 - 11, 2023, in Grand Junction.
 - The Center will also be hosting the annual Colorado Safe Schools Summit on October 19 - 20, 2023. Recently, the call for proposals was sent out for workshops at the Summit. More information will be released as proposals are received.
- Margaret Ochoa provided an update regarding the Youth Engaged in School Safety (YES²) Council. In February's meeting the Board heard a recap of the Student and Staff Safety Symposiums that were held in November and December of 2022. Today the YES² students will share their experience with those events as well as discussing other safety projects they have been working on through this school year.
- Ms. Ochoa shared that the school year 2023 - 2024 YES² will utilize a different structure to capture the youth voice - focus groups throughout the state to ensure they are hearing from multiple communities and all types of schools. Now that the Center has established Regional Training Consultants, they will be able to leverage relationships in their regions to set up the focus groups. While Center staff are excited for a bulk of the current council to graduate, the existing underclassmen can continue with the Center assisting in making decisions related to the focus group topics and Student/Staff Summits for next school year.
- Brad Stiles provided a brief update on the second STOP Violence Grant the Center has received. The first STOP Grant is in the process of being wrapped up, all training is finished and training for the second grant has begun.
- Kati Garner provided an update on the online threat assessment tool the Center has been working on. After many months of working diligently with the vendor, Ms. Garner will be meeting with Mr. Stiles and the vendor to start the process of training. Once the kinks are worked out, the Center will be able to begin hands-on training with specific pilot sites. At this point, there are 35 licenses for districts to use the online case management system after being trained by the Center on their CTAMP protocol. Director Harms shared that with the second NIJ grant and if SB23-241 passes, the Center will have additional licenses and the ability to upload the suicide risk assessment toolkit on this case management platform.

- Ron Lee shared that the Center has been working on updating their Suicide Risk Assessment Toolkit. This toolkit was created approximately four years ago and was based on the book written by Dr. Erbacher and her colleagues. The Center was fortunate enough to have Dr. Erbacher attend a Suicide Professionals' meeting in March of 2023 where she shared a lot of her wisdom, expertise, and even a sneak peek of the latest revision of the original book. As a result of this, the Center staff has completed revisions to the toolkit. They expect to continue to assist school districts throughout the state with this toolkit as the response to the work has been extremely positive.
- Kelly Addington shared that the Center staff has received quite a few requests for training in Suicide Risk Assessments, Threat Assessments, and PREPaRE. PREPaRE is a crisis model created by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). There are two workshops, the first is directed towards administrative staff and the second is designed for the mental health staff/specialists. At this point, all three trainers that are responsible for psychological safety have been certified in both workshops, which is fortunate since many schools are requesting this training.
- Ms. Addington also shared that the Center's recent NIJ grant includes funds to pilot the Handle With Care program in collaboration with Safe2Tell. This program will allow law enforcement officers to quickly alert a school of any student that witnesses a traumatic event so that the school can support them the next day. The first pilot site will be up and running this next academic year.
- Director Harms shared that two new initiatives have started:
 - interagency **School Safety Working Group** (SSWG) which was born out of two bills, [Senate Bill 2020-023](#) and [House Bill 2022-1274](#). The working group is focusing on the work being done in schools by state agencies to identify any duplication, gaps in services, data gathered and how schools access these services. This working group started in December of 2022 and had their first formal meeting in March of 2023. This is chaired by CDPS Executive Director, Stan Hilkey, and the co-chair is Christina Monaco of CDE. The first SSWG press release and meeting notes are available on the [website](#)
 - The **Colorado School Safety Initiative** (CSSI) will use the information of the SSWG but look at school safety in a broader context to include local community agencies and other partners contributing to school safety. This work is facilitated by Confluence Policy and Strategy Group and the Public School and Business Coalition (PEBC). Please see this [website](#) for more information.
- Margaret Ochoa talked about the YES² council's past school year and work done.
 - The Youth Council participated in the 2022 Student Staff Summit alongside the Center staff last November and December. Three students worked with Margaret Ochoa in the Healthy Relationships presentation. The students that helped present contributed much of the presentation from their work on dating violence and healthy relationships in their high schools. Some students video taped their presentations if they could not participate in person.
 - Ron Lee and Brad Stiles worked with other students in relation to emergency operations. The goal of this breakout was how to bring in the student voice to school emergency planning.
 - Kati Garner and Kelly Addington worked with students on Post-COVID school & community engagement. Staff were observed taking copious notes on the student comments and suggestions.
 - The evaluations submitted by the students and staff demonstrated great interest in the topics presented and methods for integrating new ideas at their schools.
- Director Harms thanked the students for their participation in the summits and today's meeting wishing all the seniors congratulations and best wishes as they go off to college. Once again this has been an outstanding youth council and Ms. Ochoa and Dr. Lee have done a wonderful job of facilitating the students' work.

Advisory Board Members' Updates

Colorado Department of Education

- **Christina Monaco**, Field Manager for the NW Region for the CDE, shared that she is excited to be the co-chair on the new interagency School Safety Working Group as well as the commissioner's crime prevention working group. Her team is currently tackling how they can provide specific support to those who reach out to them. Lately, there is a complicated and complex conversation around school safety. Her office is fielding quite a few concerns or questions from parents and communities regarding resources, policies, legislation and more. CDE is putting together an inventory of their grants, resources, and experts so they can more easily connect people to what is available from CDE.

Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool

- **Craig Hein**, General Counsel, shared that CSDSIP recently had a webinar from Diane Kranley regarding sexual abuse prevention and was very pleased with the focus on identification and prevention.

East Otero School District

- **Desiree Goheen**, teacher, shared that East Otero School District will be having a threat assessment training on June 27, 2023, and they are looking forward to the formal training. She relayed that their schools are practicing more drills this year, especially lock down drills.

Denver Public Schools

- **Dr. Jane Lineman**, Student Safety Coordinator with Denver Public Schools (DPS), shared that her team has been extremely humbled by the outreach and support they have received after the recent incident in the district. Their district is extremely busy working on a human trafficking grant, bringing school resource officers back to their schools, and they are looking to expand their mental health provider list by partnering with private practitioners and community agencies.

Colorado Community College System

- **Greg Busch**, Emergency Management Director for the Colorado Community College System, told the board that his team is currently working on trying to more actively prevent active shooter possibilities and enhance team training. The community college system is utilizing a virtual platform to practice functional exercises and help everyone understand what their role is during an emergency event. Recently they listened to a presentation by Zero Eyes. Developed by a group of former Navy Seals, it uses AI to identify weapons within three to seven seconds using existing campus cameras. The information is then forwarded to a dedicated team staffed by other former military members who will confirm the identification of the weapon and notify the school, SROs, campus police and local law enforcement. This was created to shorten reaction time.

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

- **Dr. Lena Heilmann**, Director of the Colorado Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP), reported that her office is busy applying for a variety of grants. She also shared a brief update that their youth specific initiative is a focus on eating disorder prevention and its tie to suicide prevention. The group meets the third Thursday of every other month and Advisory Board members are welcome to attend.

Colorado PTA

- **Lorrie Odom, MD**, Co-Chair of the Health, Wellness, & Safety Committee for the Colorado PTA, reported that the PTA is having their 101st Annual Convention on the last Saturday and Sunday of this month. There will be a large variety of presentations including one from the Pikes Peak

Suicide Prevention Partnership. There will be presentations on the safe storage of firearms, family engagement, legislative hot topics and other interesting topics. There will be a 4/20 event at Civic Center Park and for the first time it will be restricted to individuals 21 years and older. *One Chance to Grow Up* has created a 4-20 toolkit for messaging to students, educators, parents and community members which will be shared after the meeting. Dr. Odom also reported that the Child Mind Institute has created new resources related to school shootings to help comfort children and address parents' fears and sadness; she will share the links after the meeting too.

Metropolitan State University

- **Mr. Mark Pokorny**, Environmental & Emergency Preparedness Manager for Metro State University (MSU), reported that they are still working to find an individual to fill the position of Police Chief. The position covers three different institutions of higher education and campuses. Their team is also seeking an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Auraria campus.

Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health

- **Ms. Meghan Shelton**, Program Manager at the Behavioral Health Administration, stated that her office is currently working on updating the school crisis toolkit that can be shared with schools and an additional guide for what support is available and where.

Boulder County District Attorney's Office

- **Mr. Michael Dougherty**, District Attorney, is currently working on handling the volume of swatting incidents at the schools. He is grateful for the community responses to these incidents.

Colorado Department of Law

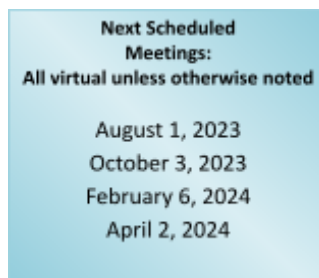
- **Stacey Jenkins**, Director of Safe2Tell, said they will be holding a Celebration of Impact where Safe2Tell student ambassadors present to the Attorney General and sponsors about the projects they have been working on over the past school year. Their office will be providing Train-the-Trainer sessions this spring and summer. They will be holding training sessions this summer at schools, camps, recreation centers, and other youth serving sites including possibly sessions for parents.

Westminster Police Department

- **Officer Kelly Jacobsen**, School Resource Officer and officer of the Colorado Association of School Resource Officers (CASRO), thanked the Center for their work with Safe2Tell on the Handle With Care Program. She also voiced her appreciation for the online case management system the Center is developing for threat assessments. She believes the additional follow-through provided by the system is vital.

Having no further updates, Officer Jacobsen asked for final thoughts from the CSSRC staff. Director Harms thanked the board for all of their support and thanked the YES² students for attending and presenting during the meeting. Officer Jacobsen 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 3:27 pm with thanks to everyone in attendance.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at 1:30 and it will be virtual.



Next Scheduled Meetings:
All virtual unless otherwise noted

August 1, 2023
October 3, 2023
February 6, 2024
April 2, 2024