

Meeting of the Interagency School Safety Working Group Steering Committee

Date: September 24, 2024, at 11:00 AM
Present: Andrea Pulskamp and Christina Monaco, CDE
Gretchen Russo, CDHS
Stacey Jenkins, Safe2Tell
Chris Harms, Office of School Safety, CDPS
Absent: Carrie Cortiglio, CDPHE
Tripti Sharma, BHA

Introductions & Goals

- Review the work of the original SSWG
- Consider how best to continue the collaboration
- Agree on the next steps

Highlights of the original SSWG work during 2023:

- Working group was established in response to the 2019 [audit of state agencies](#) that work in schools
- [SB20-023/HB22-1274](#)
- More than 20 meetings throughout 2023 with 100+ participants
- Facilitated by Confluence Policy and Strategy Group
- Directive:
 - Study and implement suggestions of the 2019 state auditor's report
 - Consider program organization and recommend reorganization if necessary;
 - Identify shared metrics to examine program effectiveness;
 - Facilitate interagency coordination and communication;
 - Increase transparency and accessibility of state grants and resources, particularly for school districts without a grant writer, which includes improving outreach and may include developing common grant applications;
 - Facilitate and address data sharing, including allowable data sharing at the local level, when appropriate and allowable under state and federal law; and
 - Address school safety program challenges in a coordinated way.
- Used six committees to do the work
 - Metrics and Data
 - Program Access
 - Mental & Behavioral Programs and Resources
 - Gap Analysis

- Sustainability & Collaboration
- Physical Safety & Security
- The SSWG finished their statutory requirements with the completion and submission of their report in January 2024.

Recommendations from the SSWG report:

- An opportunity to improve awareness, access, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency of all programs.
- Priority actions included:
 - Continued collaboration of the state agencies - this group
 - Program access and navigation - a central hub which is why the OSS has hired an Interagency Resource Specialist to make programs more accessible to schools but also to streamline information across departments.
 - Public awareness and communication - strategic marketing campaign (we will come up with the marketing campaign)
 - Data sharing and legal direction - now there are limits to what data is being collected and shared. We will probably need guidance from the Attorney General's office and possibly the Office of Information Technology on what/how we can share data.
 - Physical Safety & Security - this committee produced a [list of suggestions for schools on building sites and physical safety suggestions](#)

Next Steps

- Creation of a website to house the resources that state agencies provide to schools. The Office of School Safety has hired someone to do this, and they will be onboarded on October 8th.
- Creation of a data analysis committee. Further discussions around what data needs to be collected will follow in subsequent meetings.
- Advisory board members will begin the process of having their team review the original resource list gathered in early 2023 and make edits and additions.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22nd at 11:00 AM.
- The group was thanked for their time and the meeting adjourned early.