

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Safety and Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes

Superintendent's Conference Room, District Office
November 12, 2015 - 8:30 am

Committee members present: Leslie Finegold, Bernie Brady

Other Board members present: Sue Moore, Beth Suchsland, Mel Brodsky, Christina Frangiosa, Heather Palmer, Alan Tabachnick,

Administrators present: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Karen Berk, Terry Yemm

Ms. Finegold, Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:39 am

Public Session

There were no public comments.

Review of CSD Policy 221 – Bullying Prevention

Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services & Special Education, reported that we are required to review our Bullying Prevention policy annually for the Safe Schools report and revise, as needed. The policy was reviewed and no revisions were recommended at this time. However, it was suggested that the format be changed to align with the PSBA format.

Crisis Response - UPDATE

District Safety Officer, Tim McDonald, reported that CSD continues to move forward with updating procedures and associated documents, i.e. flip charts. Recently we began training all staff in the concept of Run-Hide-Fight. The concept is designed to give staff options in regards to emergency situations in addition to our traditional Lockdown procedures. We are working with Steve Beck from the Montgomery County Emergency Management agency. He is the expert in the area for school safety. The concept being taught is recommended by federal, state and local authorities including our local police chiefs. At the conclusion of this phase, we will begin drills to further educate staff in the concept and then provide relevant information to students at an age appropriate level.

2015-2016 Safe School Initiative Targeted Goals

District Safety Officer, Tim McDonald, reported that CSD has again applied for the \$25000.00 grant. Renovations at the high school include and upgraded electronic locking security system. The district currently operates on an older system the "keri" system. This system has been in the district for 12 years. It is currently at its end of life. There have been no upgrades for 7 years, there has been and will not be any new functionality and there will be no future development. This system is a, off line system that requires access to a computer to make an changes. This is a cumbersome and time consuming practice. The newer system being installed with the PWHS project, "S2", uses a browser interface which means no software to install. Anywhere there is internet access, access to the system can be gained. It also provides the ability function from a smart phone to lock down a building almost instantly rather than through the current 27 minute process. Additionally, it will interface with our existing camera system and constantly polls the system informing users of events such as forced doors and live access. The goal of the grant is to subsidize the installation of this newer system in all district facilities and thus provide a safer and more secure environment for all students and staff.

Act 71 – Youth Suicide Awareness & Prevention – Policy Draft

District Behavioral Health Advisor, Felix Scherzinger, presented the proposed "Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response" policy for review. After highlighting the document's organizational structure, the Committee discussed the protocols for the administration of suicide awareness and prevention training to professional

educators serving students in grades six through twelve. Specific topics regarding the professional development included offering the trainings soon after the summer and winter breaks and providing the staff trainings in the context of prevention within the Student Assistance Program model. The committee also discussed the protocols for the administration of student education and the ongoing monitoring of suicide awareness and prevention resources posted on the district's website for program and contact information accuracy.

Wrestling Program Initiatives - UPDATES

Terry Yemm, Director of Operations, and Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education, shared a list of extensive wrestling program initiatives that have been – or are about to be – put into place. Community member and parent, Mrs. Lisa Dresnin, shared her concerns pertaining to skin infections amongst CSD wrestlers. The committee then engaged in discussions pertaining to her concerns, including ways in which we can address and prevent skin infections amongst our wrestlers. In an effort to communicate the potential seriousness of this issue, the PWHS Athletic Department has invited Dr. Eugene Hong to speak to the topic with CSD wrestlers and their parents. Dr. Hong is chief of the Drexel University College of Medicine Division of Sports Medicine and is our district physician. This important information session will be held on Tuesday, November 17 at PWHS at 7:00 PM. All members of the CMS and PWHS wrestling teams are required to attend.

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen B. Berk
Director of Pupil Services & Special Education

Terry Yemm
Director of Operations