



Safe Schools Community Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

9:00 a.m. Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Welcome/Introductions

Confirmation of Agenda

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Board of Education	Lee-Ann Tiede
City of Kelowna	Ryan Donn
COTA	Lori Dawson-Bedard
COPAC	Deannie Dacosta Zahara
District Administration	Al Lalonde, Sherri McKinnon, Kevin Kaardal, Dave Cavezza, Dave Glassock, Jared Birkeland
Kelowna Fire Department	Paul Johnson
RCMP	Robyn Boffy, George Minshull, Mike Kube, Fed Angulo, Lesley Smith
West Kelowna Fire Department	Kelly Wilson

WELCOME

Sherri welcomed everyone to the Central Okanagan Committee for Safe Schools and everyone introduced themselves.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Al and Sherri:

Meeting Intentions

Slide presentation content:

- Review committee structure
- Review last meetings adaptive challenge/inquiry
- Explore new adaptive challenge/inquiry
- Partner network updates
- Members can contact chairperson to recommend an adaptive challenge
- Components Safe School Cultures

Update re: School Resource Officer Inquiry Scan

Slide presentation content:

- Goal to explore 10 schools – 8 completed to date
- Various Family Zones – Elementary to Secondary
- Feedback from 49 students, 13 staff members, 14 parents thus far

- Voluntary participation-open invitations via students gr. 6-9, law classes, all staff or staff who have had SRO presentations, and PAC (encouraged to notify larger community)
- To date there are 33 pages of data – 2 schools left to go
- Data being reviewed by District Psychologist as independent reviewer trained in analyzing data
- Goal: Obtain feedback on ways to utilize the partnership between Central Okanagan Public Schools and the RCMP to augment a safe, welcoming and inclusive culture in every school

Group Discussion/Comments:

Sherri

Surveys cover more people but don't get to the deeper understanding of experiences. Interviews provide opportunity to ask clarifying questions and seeks to understand meaning behind statements. Will look at student's solutions/suggestions to improve things.

Al

Provided information on Vancouver School Board trustees voting to discontinue the School Liaison Officer Program and work on new relationships with RCMP and VPD after concerns of racism and discrimination involving police. Burnaby, Surrey and Richmond not pulling out of the program and committed to supporting local youth.

Partner Updates:

Al Lalonde – Assist Superintendent

Remarked they are wrapping up mental health week and kids understanding their own needs. Safer schools will be going ahead with a lot more training including risk assessments. Continue to be a GRIP school district and continuing to work with our SROs re: gangs and violence. Aiming to host training for admin re: online pop culture

Ryan Donn – City of Kelowna

Advised ten RCMP officers per year will be hired due to a lot of feedback from the community. There will be information on funding budget and community discussion how much do we advocate and where they will be assigned. Received recommendations for the safety program, and approval for RCMP strategies from community feedback.

Lee-Ann Tiede – Board of Education

Relayed how much she appreciated the SRO presentation, and a report will come out from this committee to thank everyone in the community contribution for making schools safe.

Deannie Dacosta Zahara – COPAC

Extended a warm thank you to committee members for their participation. Nothing to report and are focusing on housekeeping items. Will be involved with digital safety awareness planning for next year.

Jarred Birkeland

Nothing to report. Brief comment regarding rollout of COVID vaccinations- a huge relief and feels like weight lifted off shoulder.

Dan Glassock – Traffic Safety Officer

Provided information relating to near misses due to pedestrians walking on street. Providing a presentation video for classroom use to increase safety awareness. Other problems relating to traffic around schools is tough – will concentrate on providing more video presentations at schools.

Robin Boffy – RCMP

Commented on how many positive things are coming from reports and excited to hear what recommendations and great ideas students will provide.

Kevin Kaardal – Superintendant

Advised there may also be a meeting in June 2021.

Dave Cavezza

Commented on the COVID-19 Immunization Plan information available on the BC government website.

Lori Dawson-Bedard - COTA

Will see if Bonnie Henry announces mandatory wearing of masks initiative in schools to address concerns in schools.

Summary and Wrap Up:

Sherri provided information that she visited the Youth Recovery House in Kelowna which is opening next week to assist youth (ages 12-18) with substance addiction. The homey design is amazing. Provides each youth their own bedroom and bathroom and there is a culinary kitchen so youth can receive training. Thanked everyone for feedback and suggestions to make this committee collaborative and purposeful.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

**Adjusted Meetings Schedule for the 2020-2021 School Year:
Four times per year (October 7, November 4, February 3, May5)**