



Safe Schools Community Meeting

October 7, 2021
9:00am-10:30am
Zoom Meeting

Committee Members Present

Board of Education	Trustee Baxter, Trustee Tiede
Superintendent	Kevin Kardaal
City of Kelowna	Ryan Donn, Brad Sieben
COTA	Lori Dawson-Bedard
COPAC	Deannie Zahara
District Administration	Sherri McKinnon, Troy White, David Johnson
Kelowna Fire Department	Kyle Jacobsen, Rick Euper
RCMP	Sherri Lund,
District of Lake Country	Penny Gambell
Traffic Safety	Dan Glasscock

Welcome:

Sherri welcomed everyone to the Safe Schools Community Meeting and acknowledged that this meeting was being held on the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People. Introductions Proceeded.

RCMP: Community Youth School Officers (CYSO)

- Committee structure – reduced number of times meeting per year to 4x per year. Change in dates from Thursday to Wednesdays. Sherri will send out new dates.
- Divided meetings into 4 sections – welcome; review last meetings adaptive challenge/inquiry; explore new adaptive challenge/inquiry; partner network updates
- Inquiry scanning question
 - How can we increase our understanding of the role of School Resource Officers
 - Talked to 10 schools across various family zones (4 elem, 2 mid, 4 sec – feedback from parents and students)
 - **Relationships** – improve relationships between officers and students by using name tags with officer's first name – make less formal and more friendly for students or maybe "Youth Officer"

- **extra-curricular activities** within schools – hoping with more vaccinations this option will become available
- **swags and treats** – positive tickets, 7-11 gift certificates, acknowledge good behavior instead of only responding to challenges
- Placard for vests
- More actions as small as they be.
- Have 3 levels of government – Federal, City of Kelowna, and Regional District of Central Okanagan. All 3 levels of government wanted to participate in Equity, Inclusion, & diversity (EDI) Committee. Round table ideas on how to reach out to these communities to better improve relationships
- **Communication and marketing** – having bios about the officers on school newsletters
- **BIPOC and marginalized groups** – in person meetings, training, EDI Committee, Indigenous education department – had a good first meeting with them, brainstorming ideas how to work with the students.
- **Prevention and safety education** – Officers want to hear from the students on prevention and what they would like to see the police involved with. Co-Delivery with District SEL Team.
- **Name Change: Community Youth School Officers (CYSO)**-wanted to restructure program – community safety plan, youth officers being available year around, attending proactively where youth go (malls, skate parks, parties,) so officers can interact with youth before and for students to feel safe and be more open for relationships. Also has been a gap between youth from high school to university (UBCO/OC) no extra resources for this, wanting to use EDI community. Want to have a more global approach, be more involved with students all year around and outside of school.

Correspondence

- Ryan Donn - loves this new approach to make more broad and better use of resources with officers
- TikTok – "devious licks" – students are stealing things in bathrooms – at all middle schools, some high schools. Officers recommended sign in/out sheets for students to go to the bathroom. Hashtags for this were blocked so couldn't be widely shared. 'Slap your teacher' was the newest TikTok trend – officers let know this is totally unacceptable. Officers hadn't heard of any of this 'challenge' being reported.
- Troy white – own students didn't want their own bathrooms being damaged, students seem more mature, and glad was given that resource via TikTok from the officers.
- Brad – looking for proactive measures. Current services feel more reactive than proactive. Concerned about budget on the global recourses for officers but loves the idea.

- Penny Gambell – loves the idea of building relationships with officers and students. Happy TikTok concern is being watched and handled. Masks – happy to see the students wearing masks. Bike safety – students are too unaware of rules. Wondering what officers roles would be on students not wearing helmets.
- Officers responded – Dan Glasscock does a lot of great training around this, police will do recap of Dan's presentation, Sherri suggests putting this on prevention education section of action plan
- **RCMP and SD23 Action Steps**
 - Still consulting, collecting data from stakeholders on how to work and enhance these 4 areas
 - Goal would be to develop a long term action plan

Kelowna Community Safety Plan

- Mission-Engage systems, organizations, and citizens to co-create a shared vision and realistic 5-year action plan to address risk and protective factors underlying crime, vulnerability, and harm.
- Action plan goes to council in November. Helpful to review which areas of the action plan specifically pertain to our school district.
- Kevin Kaardal – mental health is important to talk about going forward for this action plan
- More on this will be discussed at next meeting in November

Partner Updates:

- Moyra – following provincial health orders – K-12 – 2 areas of discussion (masking and vaccinations). Provincial government expanded mask mandate to all adults and all students in k-12 schools. Vaccinations – waiting to receive info on how school districts can implement a school-mandate for employees to be vaccinated. School boards couldn't do this in the past, but as an employer this is something to be discussed and decided and how should we implement this if so. Protest/rally at SBO Oct 6 – had to hire a security guard for 12 hours as discussions got heated between staff and protestors. Worried about becoming a safety issue (health wise as well as people may become violent with their opinions)
- Lee-Ann Tiede – pest control; don't use any chemicals in the schools to keep kids safe.
- Deannie Zahara –working close with administration to address parent concerns and working with BCPVPA, Minister Whiteside and a doctor; working on increasing PAC and advocacy with hot lunches; working with school admin and ensuring health and safety is a priority.

- Lori Dawson-Bedard – lots of concerns about masks and exemptions – wondering what a vaccine mandate would look like. Communications are becoming more aggressive – becoming a safety issue. The tone they present (intimidation and fear)
- Troy white – no updates no action items.
- David Johnson – TikTok challenges - minor issues only. Role supporting mask mandate – doing best to support students and families. Getting a number of exemption requests. Navigating with kindness and respect. Most students wearing masks and doing well with it.
- Ryan Donn – working on big plans – dramatic increase for bike and walking. Hoping more families will be taking these modes of transportation rather than everyone driving. More services and transportation options within the dense urban centers.
- Brad – future land use – some might have a park indicated. It is a focus on urban core – south perimeter road is being worked on. Consultation. Break-ins throughout the city /enterprise/spall – shelters aren't able to maximize capacity due to Covid protocols. This is on council's radar as winter comes up. Working on complex needs – homelessness
- Penny Gambell – middle school opened this sept – wonderful building. 2 roundabouts working very well. Putting in biking lanes on main routes – trying to make connections to the rail trail – they're getting well-used; feels they are extremely valuable.
- Fire dept. Kyle Jacobson –Fire Safety House will be virtual this year – in November.
- Deannie Zahara – Asked for public survey link to City of Kelowna Safety Plan
- Dan Glasscock – dealing with a lot of frustration from people – helping to prevent with presence and education. Putting in curbing. Enhancing sidewalks at Casorso. North Glenmore is booming =lots of traffic. Bike rodeo will be going this spring – helmets will be handed out to students who are not using helmets.
- Kevin Kaardal – working on outdoor sports plans with health officers. Successful school startup.
- Sherri Lund – increase in electric bikes – concerns – under 16 cannot operate – education piece. School decision? Whether they should be on the property or not (middle schools). Kids aren't following the rules. Something we need to address. How can schools support not having them on the property? Students 16 and up can. Education piece as police part. Dan Glasscock would like to meet with Sherri to discuss this further.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: November 3, February 2, and May5