



School Safety Subcabinet

December 17, 2018 - Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Maryland School Safety Subcabinet (Subcabinet) was held on December 17, 2018 in the Governor's Reception Room, 100 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland.

Dr. Karen B. Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools and Subcabinet Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m., provided opening comments, and noted that a quorum was present.

The following Subcabinet members were in attendance:

- Mr. William Fields, Assistant Attorney General - Attorney General's designee
- Ms. Carol A. Beatty, Secretary of the Department of Disabilities
- Ms. Joan Schaefer, Deputy Director of the Interagency Committee (IAC) on School Construction
- Colonel William M. Pallozzi, Superintendent of State Police

The following Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) members were in attendance:

- Ms. Kate Hession, Executive Director, MCSS
- Mr. Joseph Pignataro, Deputy Director, MCSS
- Ms. Dawn P. O'Croinin, Assistant Attorney General, MCSS

Other meeting attendees:

Representatives of State agencies, the Governor's Office, and public were in attendance.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Secretary Beatty requested a change of the prior meeting minutes to reflect that the \$1.6 million was not just for schools but for “State buildings, including schools”. The motion to approve the corrected minutes passed unanimously.

Maryland Center For School Safety (MCSS) Updates:

- Dr. Salmon welcomed the new MCSS Executive Director, Kate Hession.
- Executive Director. Hession introduced the MCSS staff present at the meeting including Deputy Director Pignataro, Sandra Caldwell, Emily Allen-Lucht, Andy Turner, and Holly Barrett.
- Executive Director Hession described the current status of the Center’s staffing and advised the Subcabinet members that four (4) additional members will join the Center on January 2nd.
- Deputy Director Pignataro provided an overview on the new staff.



- Executive Director Hession stated that the Executive Assistant was open and the Fiscal/Grants and Data/Policy positions are posted and will close on January 4.
- Dr. Salmon asked for a status report on the School Resource Officer (SRO) Adequate Coverage Report and Deputy Director Pignataro advised it complete in progress for finalization and distribution.
- Dr. Salmon requested a status update on the survey tool and Deputy Director Pignataro stated the staff would be working on the tool this week. Ms. Schaefer requested to allow IAC to have input into the survey tool.
- Executive Director Hession reported out on the Safe School Maryland Tip Line stating that to date 136 tips had been received (since October 3, 2018). The MCSS will be conducting focus groups with students to assist in the development of a marketing plan for the Tip Line. There was mention of the Anne Arundel County arrest due to a tip but that many of the tips have been deemed not credible but follow-up within the districts is occurring.
- Dr. Salmon requested information about the volume of tips received on locally run tip lines.
- Ms. Schaeffer expressed concerns about misuse of the tipline and cited the Oregon tipline had been used as a bullying tactic to target specific people. Executive Director Hession indicated that she is aware of the issue and if and when those issues come up they are handled appropriately as they arise.
- Mr. Fields requested information on the number of tips received via phone and the app. Mr. Fields asked for the number of false reports, who oversees the false reports, and wanted to know if they are seen through to conclusion. Executive Director Hession indicated she would get the information to him and going forward the Subcabinet can expect a monthly report containing tip volume.
- Dr. Salmon asked for a status update on the Hate Crimes Grants. The members were advised the reviews are to begin on 12/18/18. The requested aggregate grant funding amount is over the available funding amount. The Subcabinet members were promised an update during the January meeting.
- Mr. Zachary Hands was invited by Dr. Salmon to address the Subcabinet members on a requested language change to the Behavioral Health Gap Analysis Report by DBM. The new language change is "Expand resources for school-based early identification, intervention, and treatment initiatives to better respond to the needs of students with SUD and co-occurring MH/SUD's." Dr. Salmon called for a motion to accept the language change to the Gap Analysis Report. Mr. Fields made a motion, which was seconded by Secretary Beatty. Dr. Salmon called for the vote and the motion carried.
- Dr. Salmon requested an update on the Annual Report and Mr. Hands stated that DBM did not request changes to the report and thus it was being addressed and submitted.



Safe Schools Funding:

Deputy Director Pignataro submitted a suggestion for both an end date for the Safe Schools fund of September 30, 2019 as well as a formula to be used for the School Safety Survey Grant due for a notice of funding. Dr. Salmon asked MCSS to provide the funding allocation breakdown formula in writing for consideration.

Safe Schools Grants for Review and Consideration:

- Howard County - unanimously approved
- Baltimore County - unanimously approved
- Washington County - unanimously approved
- Talbot County - unanimously approved
- Kent County - tabled with follow-up requested to determine costs for survey estimates and any additional funding request.

Closing:

Future Subcabinet Meeting dates were selected as indicated and the MCSS will determine availability of locations for the identified dates.

- Monday, January 29, 2019, 10am-12pm
- Monday, February 25, 2019, 10am-12pm
- Monday, March 25, 2019, 10am-12pm
- Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 10am-12pm
- Monday, May 20, 2019, 10am-12pm
- Monday, June 24, 2019, 10am-12pm

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting concluded at 11: a.m.