

Meeting type: General Monthly Meeting

Date: 3/9/2021

Time: 9:00:00 AM

Location: Mohave District Annex, 8500 E. Jackrabbit, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Meeting called to order at: 9:03:00 PM

Executive Board Members Present: Emmie Cardella, Lulu Faraj, Alexandra Young, Tina Drews, Kathy Samuels

Executive Board Members Absent: Kim McClure, Deborah Tait, Jane Trapp, Brad Duell

Quorum Present? Yes

Names of guests in attendance: Dr. Scott Menzel

Q & A with Dr. Menzel, SUSD Superintendent – Dr. Menzel answered questions submitted in person and online for 15 minutes.

School Safety with James Dorer, SUSD Chief Security Officer, Shannon Cronn, SUSD Director of Support Services, Milissa Sackos, SUSD Assistant Superintendent

James Dorer:

- SUSD's procedures for keeping schools safe is based on FEMA's emergency preparedness cycle
- includes physical approach: fencing, gates, alarms, etc.
- SUSD uses an integrated approach, e.g., SROs and district support services work together
- SROs are sworn officers and also teachers and informal counselors to students
- each school has written document that outlines emergency response for school, each classroom has a guide
- Dorer said he emphasizes that the process of learning the plan is what makes people prepared
- district and each school has incident command team
- every employee trained in basic emergency procedures
- incident command team members take FEMA courses and additional site-specific training for school
- to train teachers and staff on active shooters, use video called ASAP (Active Shooter Action Plan)
- practice exercises: each school does evacuation drills each month, 3 lockdown drills per year, 2 shelter-in-place drills per year
- tabletop exercises for administrators and reunification exercises for SIMAR teams
- district attends quarterly meeting with Emergency Response Preparedness Consortium
- member of AZ Department of Education Safety Advisement Council
- response: lockdown or evacuation, call police and fire, contact Dorer
- Dorer contacts communications department, notify district leadership, communications notifies parents
- district has an incident response team

- set up reunification center to reunite kids with parents
 - high schools are reunification centers, it might not be the closest high school
- emergency communications: automated voice calling, text, and email (sometimes all of the above)
- pulls data in from Synergy, information has to be up to date in Synergy
- parents might hear from kids first because of the prevalence of cell phones
- substitute teachers are given the same safety training as teachers and staff
 - when they arrive on campus, they are given safety information along with lesson plans, etc

Shannon Cronn

- SUSD has a threat assessment process
- Shannon Cronn is ADE state trainer for comprehensive school threat assessment process, based on Dewey Cornell's program (through federal grant ADE received in 2019)
- threat assessment process is 8 hour annual training
- goal is to prevent violence
- 3 components:
 - identification
 - evaluation
 - intervention
- prevention does not require prediction (e.g., cannot predict car accident but can make roads and cars safer)
- #1 way to make schools safe is prevention, giving students tools to address social/emotional needs
- 3 tiers of prevention in schools:
 - schoolwide prevention (e.g., PBIS, helping students feel connected to school, building relationships is protective) – this is how schools stay safe
 - provide support for at-risk students (experienced bullying, being bullied, poor problem-solving skills, saying inappropriate things to get attention)
 - intensive interventions (students with underlying mental health issues, referrals to community organization, alternative placement, expulsion – rare)
- fear is a barrier to prevention
- threat assessment team:
 - principal or assistant principal
 - SRO
 - mental health staff (counselors, psychologists, social workers)
 - teachers, aides, staff optional
- risk assessments happen in conjunction with threat assessment (e.g., identifying suicide ideation)
- stakeholder groups have monthly meetings (e.g., APs, school psychologists)

Millissa Sackos

- SRO program
- strategic plan emphasizes support services

Executive Board Updates-

Treasurer's Report - Emmie Cardella presented the monthly budget report

President - Emmie Cardella mentioned upcoming SPC elections. Up to five SPC representatives are needed. She also mentioned upcoming SPC events:

Gifted Committee Meeting, May 22 @ 6:30-7:30pm

EDI Committee has new social media accounts SPCxEDI (Instagram and Twitter),

FaceBook account has daily posts for Women's History Month

SUSD parent advisory meeting series and SUSD Transitions Fair

General Meeting, April 20th @ 6:00-7:30pm

SPC Rep Announcements- Influx of Afghan families to Cocopah has been a phenomenal gift. There is a Facebook page, Refugee Connection PHX, that assists with donations for the refugee families.

Member Agenda Items: None

Board Action(s) taken (including consent agenda): None

Other: N/A

Next Meeting (Location, Date & Time): Mohave District Annex, April 20 @ 6:00PM-7:00PM

Minutes submitted by: Kim McClure

Minutes recorded into record: 4/12/2022