



Chesterfield County Public Schools
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**2018 School Safety Task Force
Working Group #2: School Safety
Meeting 4: August 29, 2018 6:00-8:00 p.m. Eanes-Pittman Training Center**

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Diane Smith, Chair
Joe Tylus, Facilitator
Emily Ashley, Facilitator
Lt. Jason Seamster, Facilitator
Cpt. Andrea Reismeyer, Facilitator
Sabrina Adams, Committee Member
Sue Mederios, Chesterfield Mental Health
Angie Trueblood, Committee Member
Michelle Warden, Task Force Member
Jennifer Porter, Committee Member
Jim Lupacchino, Committee Member
Venson Wallin, Committee Member

As a note, all ideas that are discussed in this meeting are under the auspice to look at every practice that exist and then have discussion if the idea fits the model of Chesterfield County; hence a large spectrum of ideas are generated from the committee.

Meeting Summary

Dr. Tylus gave welcome and introductions, this is the last working group meeting.
Thanked the committee for assistance.

Ms. Smith thanked the audience for their attendance and the working group. She reminded everyone that the recommendations from the working group would be sent to the Task Force.

As of 3:30 pm on August 29th, Ms. Smith has received 557 signatures in opposition of armed mentors in elementary schools.

Dr. Tylus gave the objective for the evening was to go over the framework of the white paper and how to identify main proposals. The group had 26 recommendations but can only pass along 3-5 as the main priorities. All proposals will be included as a research file but only top few would be elaborated on. Next step is to rank priorities.

Mark Bowen was unable to attend tonight but generic proposal is included in research documents. Michelle Warden presented research on mentors that summarized was:

- Research and survey showed a need/wanted for increased security staffing
- SRO's in other elementary schools in the Commonwealth are tasked with other duties such as managing buses
- Overall Working Group #2 was not the best fit to evaluate SRO's in Elementary Schools and that should be led by Working Group #1
- Mentor Program is successful at Bellwood, this is currently an unarmed grant funded position. There should be measurable outcomes put in place for possible expansion of the program. Working Group #4 research should be included as well.
- State statute allowed for capacity of armed officer's in elementary school level but the recommendation on how to best do this was tabled.

Ms. Smith reiterated that the Task Force will received Group's recommendations and then the Task Force hands priorities over to the School Board, ultimately implementation of any recommendation from any group is from the School Board.

Dr. Tylus reminded the group there is an understanding that all ideas would take time to implement and not all 26 recommendations can be included as a top priority.

Michelle asked the question if there was going to be a Committee formed at a later date on the mentor/SRO piece because while the group had done research the Working Group did not have the time to dig in for all possible options. Vincent also voiced concern that SRO's may be the best option but if that can't be funded than what is the next options? Appropriately tabled, but who is coming back to the next option? The conversation should be continued with Work Group #1.

Dr. Tylus again summarized the process of the Task Force and the Working Group. Safety was a common conversation in a constantly shifting landscape.

Angie updated the group on #14 to collaborate with PTA and Community Engagement not just on gun safety but all-inclusive to add suicide prevention and social media, etc. All would be appropriate based on age and grad level.

Appendix will be a live file, website will stay live and not shut down for historical reference.

The School Board plans to review recommendations annually.

Meeting ended at 7:30 pm but Members stayed with the audience for questions and answers until 8:00 pm.