

## **School Safety Technical Assistance Council Minutes**

Nov. 18, 2014

Minnesota Department of Education

Conference Center A, CC13

**Members Present:** Commissioner Brenda Cassellius, Julie Blaha, Melissa Callahan, Curtis Carpenter, Lisa Engelstad, John Hunt, Brad Johnson, Nancy Lageson, Kevin Lindsey, Tony McClay, Robyn Millenacker, Cathy Miller, Danny Porter, Zeam Porter, Michael Reinhardt, Jake Ross, Kelly Smith, Jeanette Swanson, Amanda Twite, Angela Willms, William Wyss

**MDE Staff Present:** Craig Wethington, Rose Hermodson, Charlene Briner, Kevin McHenry, Nancy Riestenberg, and Patty Mattern

**Unable to Attend:** Joanna Carlson and Julie Hertzog

1. **Welcome:** Commissioner Brenda Cassellius called the meeting to order.
2. **Facilitating Council Meetings:** Commissioner Cassellius will co-chair with commissioner Lyndsey on a rotational basis. The commissioner will appoint a working chair to work with the center staff to develop meeting agendas and manage the council. After receiving interest from several council members, Julie Hertzog was selected as the working chair.
3. **Governing Procedures:** Rose Hermodson provided a brief presentation on Robert's Rules of Order and governing procedures.
4. **Approval of Sept.16, 2014 Meeting Minutes:** Minutes were approved.
5. **Old Business:**
  - a. **State Model Policy Subcommittee Report:** Julie Blaha, chair of the State Model Policy Subcommittee, presented to the council a revised state model policy for consideration and vote. Background information describing the process the committee took to arrive at its final decisions was provided. Effort was made to ensure the policy was practical and realistic for schools. After several amendments were approved, the council approved the revised model policy.
  - b. **Director's Report:**

- i. **Minnesota Student Survey Safe and Supportive Schools Analysis:** Lisa Burton, results measurement specialist at the Minnesota Department of Education, provided a brief data presentation highlighting data and trends from the Minnesota Student Survey regarding school climate, student safety, school connection and engagement.
  - ii. **Frequency of Council Meetings:** Future council meetings dates proposed and approved
    - Thursday, Feb. 4, 2015 - 3-5 p.m.
    - Tuesday, April 7, 2015 - 3-5 p.m.
    - Tuesday, July 14, 2015 - 1-5 p.m.
    - Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015 - 3-5 p.m.
  - iii. **Conceptualization of the Center/Council:** Craig Wethington discussed subcommittees that will need to be developed to work with the center to achieve its goal. The council will establish subcommittees and suggestions can be sent to Craig.
  - iv. **Center Update:**
    - Interviews for the Education Specialist 2 scheduled this week.
    - Center website is close to being launched.
    - The center is receiving calls every day and is working on a process to handle these calls in a timely and consistent manner.
    - Discussion with the National School Climate Center on partnering to bring resources to the center and Minnesota schools.
    - MDE has established an inter-agency team related to school climate.
    - Midwest Comprehensive Center is assisting the center staff in developing an implementation plan.
    - Nancy Riestenberg is offering restorative practices training for schools
    - One-quarter of Minnesota schools have received Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) training.
    - MDE received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide training and technical assistance to districts for establishing safe and supportive schools.
6. **New Business:** Next steps were discussed for distributing the state model policy to schools. MDE will post the policy on the website. Additionally, MDE will send the policy out via the commissioner's report directly to all the superintendents and collaborate with the education associations to distribute.
7. **Meeting Adjourned.**