

School Safety Task Force
Thursday, June 21, 2018
9:00 a.m.

Michigan State Police Headquarters
1917 Conference Room
7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, MI 48821

Meeting Minutes

Task Force Members	Representing
Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue (Chair)	Michigan State Police
Rev. Cory Chavis	Parents
Mr. Nicholas Dent	Teachers
Mr. David Forystek	Speaker of the House nominee
Mr. Brian Gard Called In	Senate Majority Leader nominee
Mr. Larry Johnson Called In	School administrators
Mr. Richard Joseph	House Majority Leader nominee
Chief Paul Lauria	Law Enforcement
Ms. Elizabeth Newell Called In	Health Professionals
Mr. Nolan Wright	Students
Ms. Patricia Kovacs	Senate Minority Leader nominee
Mr. Kyle Guerrant	Designee of the State Superintendent
Ms. Lynda Zeller	Designee of the Dept. of Health and Human Services
Staff Support	Representing
Ms. Chelsea Deckler	Michigan State Police
Guests	Representing
Ms. Nancy Becker Bennett	Michigan State Police, Grants & Community Services Division
Lt. Col. Chris Kelenske	Michigan State Police, Specialized Services Bureau
Mr. Timothy Bourgeois	Michigan State Police, MCOLES
F/Lt. Amy Dehner	Michigan State Police, Executive Resources Section
Capt. Dave Kelly	Michigan State Police, Intelligence Operations Division
Ms. Shanon Banner	Michigan State Police, Public Affairs Section
Insp. Troy Allen	Michigan State Police, Intelligence Operations Division
D/F/Lt. Brian Budde	Michigan State Police, Intelligence Operations Division
Ms. Julie Agueros	Michigan State Police, Executive Resources Section
Mr. Tyler Sawher	Governor's Office
Ms. Christine Nelson	Governor's Office

CALL TO ORDER

The School Safety Task Force meeting was called to order by Colonel Kriste Etue at 9 a.m. A quorum was present for today's meeting.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Colonel Etue welcomed everyone to today's meeting and introductions were provided by attendees.

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Julie Agueros provided an overview of the School Safety Task Force Executive Order as well as other legal considerations including the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

Ms. Agueros provided the task force members with draft Rules of Procedure and Colonel Etue requested the task force members review the procedures during the next break. The task force members reconvened the meeting and voted to adopt the Rules of Procedure as they were drafted.

Lt. Col. Chris Kelenske and Ms. Nancy Becker Bennett provided an overview of previous school safety initiatives. In 2003 schools were identified as critical infrastructure and grant funding was made available to help schools conduct threat/risk assessments and develop safety plans. In December 2012, Governor Snyder called for a review of best practices and policies of safe school plans across Michigan with a goal of identifying strategies for students to resolve conflicts peacefully. The PowerPoint presentation will be provided to the Task Force members following the meeting.

D/F/Lt. Brian Budde provided an overview of the OK2Say program, which is a student safety program that allows students to confidently report tips of school violence. The program was initiated in 2014 and is a joint effort between the Michigan Attorney General and the Michigan State Police (MSP). The MSP employs technicians who operate the OK2Say tip line where they take in information and seek additional information to help facilitate a response.

Bullying was the most reported tip in 2014 and so far in 2018 planned school attacks rank third. In March 2018, there were 131 tips for planned school attacks received with a total of 303 for 2018 to date. The task force discussed making the recommendation that the OK2Say program be made the universal program for reporting school violence tips in the state of Michigan and at colleges in the state.

Mr. Tim Bourgeois provided an overview of current law enforcement standards as they relate to school safety. There are 18,736 MCOLES licensed law enforcement officers in the state of Michigan filling 19,316 positions. There are a total of 584 law enforcement agencies, ranging in size from one to 2,353 officers. The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) does not currently define the School Resource Officer (SROs) assignment. MCOLES does not have set standards nor have they implemented a curriculum to train SROs.

Ms. Lynda Zeller discussed the current Mental Health Code and recommended Task Force members familiarize themselves with section 330.1227 school-to-community transition. In addition, Ms. Zeller recommended Act 451 of 2006, also known as the "Chase Edwards law", which was a revision to the school code which encourages schools to have curriculum for suicide prevention.

Mr. Kyle Guerrant provided an overview of the current of the current school disciplinary process as well as school violence prevention. Michigan students are currently at a higher risk of bullying, suicide, and violence compared to others at the national level. Michigan students are also reporting that they feel unsafe at a higher rate than their peers across the nation. Mr. Guerrant discussed changes that have recently been made to the school code which now encourages schools to look at various factors rather than treating all students and acts of possible violence the same. The Michigan Department of Education has also begun collecting suspension and expulsion data on all students to help identify areas of concern.

F/Lt. Amy Dehner provided an overview of pending legislation as well as legislation that has already passed that affects the Task Force. F/Lieutenant Dehner mentioned there are currently about 20 bills in the house and senate that touch on school safety. This Task Force will be stewards of educating the public about what has already been done and what still needs to be done. The Task Force is able to make policy recommendations and identifying gap areas in legislation. F/Lieutenant Dehner will be the point of contact for the Task Force for any legislative issues.

Colonel Etue discussed the charge to the Task Force and mentioned any issues identified that are not tasked by the Executive Order (EO), will be put on hold and dealt with after the tasks from the EO are accomplished. The Task Force will provide progress updates to Governor Snyder before providing him with the final recommendations. Colonel Etue assigned subcommittee chairs to the various tasks and asked each Task Force member to select a subcommittee to work on and identify other individuals to work on the subcommittees.

Public Comment

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

The Task Force will meet twice a month until November. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at the Michigan State Police Headquarters.