

Safe Schools Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2022

In attendance:

Ron Crowe, Maria Ramadane, Jackie Gaston, Heather Wisnieski, Mickel Lewis, Chrissy Fauls, Scott Hall, Shawn Peak, Jennifer Smith, Jacquelyn Gaston, Samuel Chisolm, Jr., Swannelle Wiggins, Dolores Robison, Erik Carlsen-Landy, Amber Macerelli, Kat Meints, Lisa Zargarpur, and Lt. Craig Lawhead

Not in attendance:

Jennifer Wall, Heather Martinsen, Jennifer Smith, Lisa Delgado, Tamaica Martin, and Chris Brothers

Welcome and Membership Updates:

Ms. Lisa Zargarpur will replace Mr. Justin Wilk as the School Board representative for SSAC. Ms. Jennifer Wall will continue her service on the council.

Given the change in the meeting date for January, the next meeting will be held on February 15, 2022, rather than February 7, 2022.

Welcome to Ms. Swannelle Wiggins representative for the Occoquan District.

Citizen's Comments: No citizens were present.

Review / Approve minutes from December 6, 2021, meeting:

Corrections: Reporter incorrectly identified. Corrected to Daniel Berti from Prince William Times. Council member name corrected from "Mikel" to "Mickel." Meeting was planned for January 10 but postponed to the snow date of January 24, 2022.

Approve motion: Amber Macerelli moved to approve motion to accept minutes, seconded by Heather Wisnieski.

Council Business

Review of proposed norms. No questions or comments.

Ron Crowe will bring data around school fights to next meeting. He is discussing best way to get data with the Accountability Department.

At the next meeting, the council would like to review data about drug use, alcohol use, and overdoses, current as compared to the 2018-19 school year. Mickel will reach out to Tamaica Martin.

Discussion about how discipline data is reported and recorded. Council would like to consider reviewing discipline data this year by quarter as compared to the last full school year prior to COVID (2018-19). The council agreed to schedule 45-minutes next meeting to discuss the data.

Review SSAC By-Laws, Assistant Division Counsel

Areas of interest include citizen comment time and the option to go into closed session. Citizen comment time and the option to go into closed session are addressed in the by-laws.

Community members can share information with the council and may stay for as long as they wish. The by-laws define specifics (ex: time limits, registration in advance) around the structure of Citizen Comment Time.

The decision about whether information is appropriately discussed in closed session would be made by division council. Topics under consideration for closed session should be forwarded to Dr. Hart who would share with Mr. Carlsen-Landy.

Discussion about logistics of what closed sessions entail.

The council discussed clarifying what issues should come before the council and what issues are best managed at the school level.

Mr. Carlsen-Landy clarified that council members must attend in person and not via Zoom. Voting members may not have "alternates" if they cannot attend a meeting. They can have someone attend the meeting as a community member, but they may not vote, and the council member would be considered "absent." Sam Chisolm asked him to confirm this understanding.

The council discussed having a sub-committee review and consider appropriate changes to the current by-laws. Maria Ramadane made the motion to have a sub-committee and Swannelle Wiggins seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Sam Chisolm will lead the sub-committee and a sheet was passed to solicit volunteers.

School Safety Recommendation Memorandum

Review of Memorandum to Superintendent for Focus for 2021-22 school year.

Maria Ramadane suggested considering subcommittees based on the focus of the memorandum to the superintendent.

Feedback and Adjourn

Mickel Lewis encouraged members to use the feedback form.

Next meeting is February 15, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10. Motion made by Heather Wisnieski and seconded by Jackie Gaston.