

**May 17, 2022**

**Meeting Open:** 5:34 p.m.

**Attendees:** Aida Cerundolo, Chris Connelly, Jeremy Denlea, Charlie Dennis (remote from office due to scheduling), Meghan Eckner, Adrienne Evans, Karyl Martin, Robert Quinn, Sean Connor, Sean Locke, Ahni Malachi

**Quorum:** YES

**Approval of Minutes April Meeting:** 9 yeas and 2 abstains (Charlie Dennis and Meghan Eckner)

**Education Resource Guide:**

- Karyl Martin: Access to School Board Association Model Policies, provided codes for ones that seemed most relevant. If we look at specific school districts we can compare them to the model ones. Policies adopted at the school board level and then summarized and incorporated into school handbooks for parents/teachers
- Sean Connor and Jeremy Denlea: Selected five different schools from each county at different levels and if you were looking for assistance could you find information to make a complaint or seek support from the school or district—nothing addressed discrimination but instead, focused on bullying. Drives may lock you out of the access points. Accessibility is a problem that may prohibit parents and students from engaging in meaningful ways. Resources were also not comprehensible in that they could be overly technical and difficult to understand. Seems like discrimination seems to fall under the bullying laws and could use some fleshing out the distinctions between bullying and discrimination. A lot of focus on the punishments rather than the procedures.
- Robert Quinn: Going to arrange to bring in folks on the school bus data, made connections to Jewish Federation and Islamic Society. NEIBERS data would look at arrests and Safety has an RFP out to expand and recreate the NEIBERS portal and that it is difficult to access and comprehend. NEIBERS is the only place to gather data on arrests.
- Chris Connelly and Charlie Denis: SROs. Not a lot of data available now but more coming. Approx. 100 SROs in the state and the academy will start tracking that and standardizing the SRO training. A good vehicle to get more reliable and consistent training into the SRO program. SROs have annual conferences and it provides opportunity to connect and teach and train. Not necessarily a heavy lift. Questions may remain with agencies with SROs. Web based training. National Association of School Resource Officers Training could be the model based upon LEACT recommendations.
- Sean Locke: Has been engaging with the different community groups to get an understanding of what they are seeing. One conversation led to discussion of how schools and districts are moving away from more draconian models of punishment in schools—focusing on school

culture and positive unifying messages to help students better understand the harm caused and the underlying issues.

- Aida Cerundolo: Reached out to FAIR NH, which is a group that works to eliminate racism and intolerance. Sees racism as an opportunity to education. Behind the hate is an opportunity to educate and build a better community.
- Adrienne Evans: Met with 40 families during a presentation—kids with profound disabilities, including communication disabilities, and kids with less obvious disabilities. Lack of access to the information about a particular incident, kids are upset, injured, or anxious, and parents could not learn this from the staff. There are kids who cannot self-report what happened and parents feel left in the dark. Felt like biases in staff in how the students with disabilities are disciplined in schools that risks excludes them from the classroom setting. Parents have moved many of these students to charter schools where the education discipline occurs less frequently. Circumvention of restraint and seclusion laws by moving other students to a different space and then this led to parents making efforts to have the child removed from the classroom setting. An issue of training for staff and faculty.
  - Discussion about how parents could not get access to this information
- Ahni Malachi: Formatting of the report. Favoring the methodology of the ADL's resource manual. Include information on hate-crimes and bias-motivated acts. How to intervene. Reached out to DOE that has an office that does a lot of this work and to engage with them to work in this area. What is available? Where are there gaps to fill this in? Possibly compile it together. Contacts with the faith-based community to discuss the issues and what we are looking for.
- Needing a representative from a k-12 education program. Less populated counties tended to have more robust digital resources.
- Focusing on policies, handbooks, reporting, and other mechanisms that small districts could engage with easily as a starting point.
- May be some other studies and guides out there that are good to look to as models too.
- Could focus in on anti-Semitism to focus in on particular issues—the request may have had been in specific regard to anti-Semitism.
- A bit broader net will get more attention from school boards.

#### **Subcommittee Updates:**

- Government Relations
  - HB 1431, the Parental Bill of Rights, concerns arose after the Senate added language. Was going to be discussed today, but the committee of conference has decided to kill the bill instead.
  - Discussion of legislative process
- Outreach & Education:
  - Discussion of where to get some better oversight of programs for disability community.
  - Helping people better understand work such as evictions that process.

- Work by the Department of Safety with the different communities to improve access.
  - Consistent meeting with the community leaders and fostering community relations.
- AC Edwards to discuss recruitment; Director Marasco (sp?) for and update; John Scippa for PS&TC.
- Interviewed Sheriff Connelly to get a better sense of what the HCSO does for training and consistency. Successes of incorporating more mental health professionals.

**New Business:**

- None

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022, 5:30 p.m., Dep't of Safety, 33 Hazen Drive

**Adjourn:** 6:45 p.m.