

June 21, 2022

Meeting Open: 5:39 PM

Attendees: Present: AM, SC, AC, SBC, JD, ME, AE, RQ **Participating by Phone:** AL (in new London, children in next room, remote for child care reasons) CD (In office in Hanover alone, remote due to scheduling issues), **Absent:** SL, CC , KM

Quorum: YES

Approval of Minutes May Meeting: 8 yeas and 2 abstains (Sarah Burke Cohen and Ann Landry)

Education Resource Guide:

- Ahni presented the group with a handout detailing the table of contents and outline of the Education Resource Guide. The group took time to review the materials before the discussion began. Ahni explained that this will be a rough organization that is up for debate. This was organized looking at the documents that we have previously analyzed and keeping the Governors' directive in mind along with what our group has decided to do. Ahni questioned how we can incorporate the past research that Sean and Jeremy did on resources in schools along with a section on disability or adding it in as much as possible along with a section on SROs by looking at the information that the LEACT commission put together along with the MOUs.
- Aida Cerundolo asked about the research into SAU websites. Sean Connor and Jeremy Denlea explained the discrepancies and issues in SAUs and schools not having information as openly accessible as it can be. Jeremy Denlea commented that a best practices section on websites may be useful and titling. Jeremy also noted that calling the section "bias incidents" lines up the guide to be adaptable to many different demographics. Finally, Jeremy mentioned that at our last meeting, James Scully mentioned that Governor Sununu was inspired to ask for us to create this guide after he saw a similar guide in a different state. Jeremy mentioned that it may be useful to ask for the document that he saw. Ahni Malachi then replied that in her conversation with James that this was more inspired from the ADL document from her understanding. Ahni Malachi mentioned that the document would best serve the state if we cast a wide umbrella on the subject matter, rather than specializing it in one subject alone. One of the goals that Ahni Malachi mentioned was bringing the negative incidents and making them a positive teaching moment and focusing on prevention and problem solving.
- Jeremy Denlea mentioned under the section "the elements of response" the importance of not dismissing incidents, but not but not being harsh either. Jeremy Denlea went on to explain the importance of striking the right balance in handling incidents.
- Commissioner Robert Quinn noted that on page two, it is important to be cautious when using the word safety. Jeremy Denlea suggested replacing the word safety with "well-being." Commissioner Quinn also mentioned the importance of prevention being a separate section. Sarah Burke Cohen mentioned placing the section before the one about responding to bias-

related incidents. Jeremy Denlea and Sean Connor mentioned putting website information under a section on best practices

- Meghan Eckner mentioned asked if there was a school that was a “gold standard”. Jeremy Denlea and Sean Connor mentioned inviting them to provide input. Sarah Burke Cohen mentioned needing to word this section carefully in case of any misinterpretations in language.
- Ann Landry asked about the opportunity to hire the Department of Education to do this work given the scope of it. Ahni Malachi explained that we were given this task to tackle and the need for us to be the ones to compile the information. Meghan Eckner mentioned the concern over lack of K-12 expertise on the Council and suggested speaking to experts about the project. This led to a discussion over how we approach the project as a whole. Commissioner Quinn and Chief Dennis emphasized the council’s knowledge and expertise to be able to speak on the topic. Sarah Burke Cohen mentioned how much of the subject matter is content that we deal with on a daily basis in our respective fields.
- Ahni Malachi mentioned that she felt as if she could write the majority of the report. Sean and Jeremy are going to work on the best practices chunk of the document. We can work on whether or not the SRO section is doable or not at the current moment.
- Commissioner Quinn mentioned this work with the School Safety Task Force and the need to focus on the students and the need to keep a focus on how teachers stop bias incidents. Sarah Burke Cohen mentioned that this is a document primarily for the steps before law enforcement should get involved in the process. Aida Cerundolo mentioned the need for a boundary being noted in the document. Ahni Malachi mentioned that she would search for this line in the Massachusetts Documents that we were sent to avoid heading down a rabbit hole.
- Jeremy Denlea mentioned the idea that SROs may be of a different realm than this document is meant for. Ahni Malachi mentioned the idea of this being the last page as a short one pager.
- Jeremy Denlea is going to work on drafting the best practices part of the report with Sean Connor. Sean Connor is going to work on getting links of school websites to the council. Adrienne Evans is going to work with Ahni Malachi on weaving information about disabilities into the report. There was a brief discussion on how we define bias and how we inset it into the report succinctly.
- Sean Locke will be writing the introduction to assure that the correct tone is struck in order to inform the readers.
- Ahni Malachi mentioned the possibility that the problem roots from incidents being handled SAU by SAU. The purpose of this document is to standardize that practice. She then continued to mention the importance of saying that this is a suggestion, and not a strict directive.
- Sean Connor, Jeremy Denlea, Aida Cerundolo, and Meghan Eckner are going to work on school outreach and sending examples of positive websites that they found.

Subcommittee Updates:

- Government Relations:

- The subcommittee did not meet and will not meet next month because all of the members are providing support to the Education guide.
- Outreach & Education:
 - The subcommittee did not meet and will be put off until next week.

New Business:

- None

Public Comment:

- None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 5:30 p.m., Dep't of Safety, 33 Hazen Drive

Adjourn: 7:10 PM