

## SUMMARY NOTES

Safety and Well-Being Education Challenge Committee Meeting #4

August 24th, 2017 9am-noon

### **Introductory Comments:**

This meeting focused on revisiting the most current iterations of the draft priorities under each of the Committee's Safety and Well-Being Categories (Trauma Informed Schools, School Climate, and Student Health). The categories and priorities were carefully considered to see if they could be combined or if any of them could be eliminated as a transformational recommendation. Votes were held, and the overwhelming will of the committee was that all three categories are essential and should be retained as stand-alone categories. The committee made some modifications to the existing language in the priorities and then established 3 subcommittees to accelerate the development of transformational recommendations, recognizing that only one full committee meeting on September 27 (1-4pm) remains before the committee's transformational recommendations must be finalized.

### **Trauma Informed Schools Category Comments:**

Pat Sidmore, the Acting Director for the Alaska Mental Health Board, the Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council provided the committee with an overview on trauma informed schools emergence over the last 10 years, both in Alaska and nationally. He shared key components of trauma informed practices center around supporting student development of self-regulation and school's role in assisting this development through meaningful relationships with school staff. Pat also shared emergent data linking trauma practicing schools to academic gains.

A recommendation was made that Priority #4, Early Learning/Intervention be removed as a priority from this committee—while vital, this recommendation was felt to fit better under a different committee.

### **School Climate Category Comments:**

Many committee members advocated strongly for school climate as the cornerstone for school safety and well-being.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports and Social and Emotional Learning were highlighted as foundations schoolwide systems available to establish positive school climate.

The need to offer schools "tool boxes" with strategies to promote positive school climate has noted.

Two recommended changes to the current school climate priority draft language were generated. First, that "ongoing" be added to the professional development that needs to be provided to staff. This recommendation was made in recognition that many schools, especially rural ones, experience high rates of turnover and staff often leave after training is delivered. Second, wellness plans should specifically include students and staff.

A roadmap of suggestions for principals to improve school climate is needed. Utilization of Title II Part A funds to support school climate activities and plans for principals was suggested.

### **School Health Category Comments:**

A suggestion was made to add mental health to the priority language was made. "Strengthen K-12 counseling and health/**mental health** services in Alaska's public schools by expanding...

### **Next Steps:**

DEED will send out the minutes, the Category priority draft language, and information on the subcommittees' membership, responsibilities, and timelines. DEED will also set up GCI accounts and send call-in information to all chairpersons early next week for subcommittees to use if they elect to do their work by phone.

Subcommittees are requested to complete their work on refining their transformational recommendations by the close of business on September 15, 2017. These updates should be sent to Deputy Commissioner Sana Efird and Todd Brocius at DEED. DEED will consolidate the revised recommendations and distribute them to all committee members for review and consideration at the committee's final meeting on September 27, 2017. Any committee member who is not yet on a subcommittee and wishes to join one should contact the subcommittee chairperson soon as possible.

#### 1) Trauma Informed Schools Subcommittee Members:

Laura Mulgrew Juneau School Teacher **Chairperson**

Peter Hoepfner Cordova School Board Member

Marcey Bish Child Care Program Manager CCDF State Administrator

Walt Monegan Commissioner of Public Safety

Jennifer Hall Jones Parent in Anchorage School District

Support Staff:

1) Todd Brocius Education Administrator DEED

2) Sharon Fishel Education Specialist DEED

3) Pat Sidmore Acting Director Alaska Mental Health Board, Advisory Board of Alcohol and Drugs, Statewide Suicide Prevention Council

#### 2) School Climate Subcommittee Members:

Mary McMahon Principal Mat-Su School District **Chairperson**

Norma Holmgaard Superintendent Kashumamiut

Lily Hinze Parent Mat-Su School District

Sarah Sledge Executive Director Coalition for Education Equity

Jeff Lansing Principal Delta/Greely School District

Support Staff:

Todd Brocius Education Administrator DEED

Lori Grassgreen Alaska Association of School Boards

### 3) Student Health Subcommittee Members:

Maureen Hall School Nurse/AK School Nurses Association **Chairperson**

Leona Starr Parent Yukon Koyukuk School District

Lillian Bannerman Student Representative Thunder Mountain High School Juneau

Support Staff:

Todd Brocius

### **Subcommittee Assignments:**

- 1) Subcommittee chairs will organize meetings (work can be via phone or email). Expect to receive an email from your subcommittee chair shortly.
- 2) Revisions to each of the subcommittee's transformational recommendation (Goal) should be completed and emailed to Todd Brocius and Sana Efird by the close of business on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- 3) All transformational recommendations (Goals) should be accompanied by a rationale (see attached Facilitator Guidance for Goal and Rationale Development for example).
- 4) Please remember to incorporate feedback from today's (August 24<sup>th</sup>) committee meeting into your revisions.