School Safety and Security Committee Meeting Minutes

 November 20, 2024

Tiffany Whitsel, Assistant Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM. Notice of the meeting was posting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

Committee Members Present:

Tammie Ammons, RISD Teacher

Jason Barcak, RISD Board of Trustees

Lorena Borjas, RISD Teacher

Ethan Brinkley, RISD Teacher

April Eschberger, RISD Administrator

Hudson Evans, RISD Administrator

Stephen Goodrich, Rockdale Police Department

Charles Miles, RISD President Board of Trustees

Dr. Denise Monzingo, Superintendent

Preston Muston, Rockdale Volunteer Fire Department

Susan Reinders, Milam County Emergency Preparedness Manager

Kenzie Oliver, Milam County Emergency Management Coordinator

Allen Sanders, RISD School Safety Specialist

Kacie Strouth, Milam County School Resource Deputy

Tiffany Whitsel, Assistant Superintendent

Ashley Willard, RISD Administrator

Michael Young, RISD Administrator

The Rockdale ISD School Safety & Security Committee met on November 20, 2024, at the RISD Conference Center. The meeting began at 4:31 PM with Tiffany Whitsel emphasizing the district's commitment to HB 3 safety objectives and a secure environment for students and staff.

Discussions included the MOU with the Milam County Sheriff’s Office, ensuring two School Resource Deputies (SRDs) were assigned: Kacie Strouth at RJH and rotating deputies Stanton, Helenburg, and Pratt at RHS. Allen Sanders continues as the School Safety Specialist for RES and RIS.

Dr. Denise Monzingo provided updates on bond-funded safety upgrades, noting compliance at RIS with fencing, panic bars, and security window film, while RES completed a safety vestibule, fencing, and playground panic bars. RHS finalized a safety vestibule, additional fencing, and a dual buzzer front entrance. The district is also rekeying all campuses.

Captain Goodrich reported on recent ALLERT training with local law enforcement, and RISD was confirmed compliant with state drill requirements, including monthly fire drills, though shifting to quarterly drills is under review with the Rockdale Fire Department.

Daily door audits are conducted, with necessary repairs completed promptly. Ms. Reiners shared updates on ambulance service changes and county radio tower improvements. **PHI Air Medical Auto Launch Training has been provided to Telecommunicators in Rockdale PD, MCSO, and Cameron PD.**

Staff training compliance for Mental Health, Suicide, and Child Maltreatment reporting was affirmed. The CrisisGo platform proved effective during a recent County Code Red event, followed by a district-wide debrief. Open discussion covered topics such as roof hatches, district vulnerability assessments, and Knox Boxes.

The committee entered a closed session at 5:00 PM to review intruder audit results and threat assessments, returning at 5:12 PM. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.