

Minutes of the Ad hoc Safety Committee
Regional School District 14 www.ctreg.org
October 24, 2014

A meeting of the Ad hoc Safety Committee was held on Friday, October 24, 2014 in the Conference Room of the Central Office, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present were committee members Maryanne Van Aken, Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Wayne McAllister, Mike Devine, Paul Ciotti, Sgt. Joe Roden, and Mike Molzon; also, Deb Carlton

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Van Aken at 12:03 pm.

The committee discussed the following:

1. Safety Plan Status: to be mailed to the State next Thursday per Mr. McAllister
2. Background Check update: handout reviewed of volunteers currently cleared for service. Sgt. Roden indicated 4 issues to date. Three forwarded to the Superintendent for further review. Two were high concerns; one was a motor vehicle violation.
3. MES SRO update: Sgt. Roden reported the committee interviewed 4 candidates and selected one, former Waterbury detective Bobby Dickens, who will begin service in mid-November.
4. Camera/phone installation update: Mr. Ciotti reported all elementary classrooms have phones. Opted for no voicemail, to maintain connection with main office when teachers receive calls, and phones are quiet during school hours (do not ring). The 911 capabilities show room number when dialed. If emergency centers receive phone lists from the schools, they can be prompted to ask room number, Mr. Devine added.
Progress on cameras has been stalled due to issues with State approval of subcontractors. However, Mr. Devine wasn't sure subcontractors need to be on the approved vendor list. He asked whether pricing structure has been affected by the delays and was told not so far.
5. Defibrillator pads/batteries: have been ordered and should be in next week. Nurses will be point people to monitor dates on equipment. There are one defibrillator each at elementary school, 2 at WMS and 4 at NHS.
6. Security questions/concerns from administrators (emailed to Mr. McAllister): Susan Domanico expressed concern that parents are not notified of cameras on site, and there is no policy on the website regarding surveillance on school grounds. Sgt. Roden noted there is no expectation of privacy in public buildings except in bathrooms.
Alice Jones had expressed concern regarding lack of outdoor lighting on the back side of the WMS building, and the back door key to be used by PE classes isn't working. Mr. Molzon indicated he has fixed both issues.
7. Other: Mr. McAllister discussed the 4 grant funded projects, noting the desire to keep allocations flexible. Sgt. Roden expressed that he is not a fan of fencing schools in, like a pen, because it restricts access both in and, when needed, out. Dr. Cutaia-Leonard wants to take

direction on such matters from law enforcement and, so, will be looking to Sgt. Roden for guidance from him. At BES, although the principal was initially looking for a perimeter fence, she is now satisfied with the extension of fencing along the side road, and by the loading dock.

Ms. Van Aken asked whether any further conversations have been had with the high school about coning off the drop off circle during school hours. Sgt. Roden said he can only make recommendations about things like that. Dr. Cutaia-Leonard will follow up with the principal.

Sgt. Roden also relayed an incident involving a lost cell phone during an athletic event at NHS, apparently a result of not having lockers in the girls' locker room that lock. Dr. Cutaia-Leonard will also check on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryanne Van Aken

Maryanne Van Aken, Chair

Ad hoc Safety Committee

Regional School District 14 Board of Education