



**October 11**

**2021**

## **REPORT OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Health and Safety Committee met on Monday, September 27, 2021, at 4:00 PM in the Rosa E. Blackwell Interactive Learning Center at the Cincinnati Public Schools Education Center, 2651 Burnet Avenue, 45219.

The public viewed the meeting via Video Conference.

### **ATTENDEES**

#### **Health and Safety Committee Members**

Chairperson Melanie Bates, Pamela Bowers, Ryan Messer

#### **Administration/Staff**

Tianay Amat, Interim Superintendent; William Bell, Director of Safety and Security; Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent; Dan Hoying, General Counsel; Shauna Murphy, Assistant Superintendent; Connie Solano, Interim Chief Information Officer

#### **CPS Government Liaisons**

Eric Kearney, CEO, Kearney and Kearney

George Glover, Co-Managing Director, Focused Capital Solutions

### **Governmental Liaison Report on Particular and Immediate Legislative Topics**

#### **George Glover, Focused Capital Solutions; Eric Kearney, Kearney and Kearney**

Mr. Kearney updated the Committee on the following September 27, 2021 monthly Report.

#### **Recent Issues**

- \* Bi-weekly meetings with Krista Boyle
- \* Discussion with Rep. Ingram regarding critical race theory and mask mandate bills in the house
- \* Discussion with Sen. Blessing
- \* H.B. 334 Pay increase for school board members
- \* H.B. 441 Disclosure of COVID-19 vaccination status
- \* H.B. 322 & H.B. 327 Critical Race Theory
- \* S.B. 229 Blended learning model
- \* Working to a Delegation Meeting

#### **House Bills**

- \* H.B. 34 (Ingram) Require schools to transmit certain student's records within 5 days. Second Hearing on 2/16/21. Bill is of interest to CPS. May want to write a letter of support.
- \* H.B. 73 (Manning, Crawley) To require school districts to form work groups to evaluate the amount of time students spend on testing, and to eliminate retention under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee.
- \* H.B. 110 (Oelslager) to make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023, to levy taxes, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.

- \* Sub. H.B. 82 (Cross, Jones) To amend section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code to remove the requirement that students take a nationally standardized college and career readiness assessment for high school graduation.
  - \* H.B. 151 (Jones) To replace the Ohio Teacher Residency program with local new teacher mentorship programs beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
  - \* H.B. 200 (Jones, Robinson) To repeal section 3302.12 of the Revised Code to revise the state report card and school accountability systems.
  - \* H.B. 205 (Ghanbari, Sheehy) To enact Collin's Law: The "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at schools and colleges. Please note: "Requires each school district, community school, and STEM school to adopt an "evidence-based" or "evidence-informed" policy requiring a district or school to take a disciplinary action against a student in any grade 4-8 who commits an offense of harassment, intimidation, or bullying."
  - \* H.B. 240 (Stoltzfus, Arthur) Requires instruction in venereal disease or teen pregnancy prevention to each risk avoidance to unhealthy behaviors including alcohol, drugs, dating violence, bullying, gambling, pornography, and human trafficking and to encourage optimal health for all youth.
  - \* H.B. 67 (Koehler, Bird) Exempts public and chartered nonpublic schools from administering the state assessment if a waiver is granted by U.S. Dep't of Education. Passed House 93-1. In Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee.
  - \* H.B. 244 (White, Lampton) To enact sections 3301.601 and 3301.65 of the Revised Code regarding technology-based educational opportunities for, and the enrollment of, military children. 1st Hearing 6/1/21.
- \* **(SB) Senate Bill 145** (Brenner)
- Revises the state report card system for school districts and other public schools beginning with the report card issued for the 2021-2022 school year.
  - Maintains the A to F letter grade system, the overall summative grade, and individual letter grades for the components used to determine the overall grade.
  - Maintains the six components prescribed under current law, but revises how they are graded individually, how they are used to calculate the overall grade, and, in some instances, renames them.
  - Revises the performance measures that are used to determine component grades and eliminates separate letter grades for those measures.
  - Requires A to F letter grades to be presented on the state report card with letter grade descriptions and prescribed graphics depicting grade scales and trends.
- \* Sub. H.B. 82 (Cross, Jones) To amend section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code to remove the requirement that students take a nationally standardized college and career readiness assessment for high school graduation.

*A copy of the full report is available upon request and in the Board office.*

Mr. Kearney informed the Committee that he is working with Krista Boyle, Chief Strategic Engagement Communication Officer, on House Bills 123, 126 and 140. He stated that he is writing letters of opposition for those Bills that deal with property taxes and language for levies. Mr. Kearney will provide more details about those Bills in his next monthly report.

Mr. Kearney informed the Committee that he is meeting with Representative Cathy Ingram regarding the number of Bills that are taking place in the House of Representatives, as well as Senator Blessing.

He made the Committee aware of: *H.B. 334 (Sobecki, Ingram) To amend sections 3311.19 and 3313.12 of the Revised Code regarding school district board member compensation and ethics and open meetings training. Increases the amount a board member may receive for attending a meeting up to \$200.*

He informed the Committee about H.B.441 that says one does not have to expose their COVID-19 vaccination status.

Mr. Kearney reported that the following Bills are receiving a lot of attention in the media due to Critical Race Theory.

- H.B. 327 (Grendell, Fowler Arthur) To prohibit school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and state agencies from teaching, advocating, or promoting divisive concepts.
- H.B. 333 (Miranda, White) To require the Department of Education to make recommendations for a job description for school counselors and to designate at least one staff member as a school counselor liaison. First Hearing 9/28/21

Mr. Kearney reported that Senator Blessing will be introducing to the *Senate S.B. 229 Regarding the use of a blended learning model by public and chartered nonpublic schools during the 2021-2022 school year and to declare an emergency. First hearing 9/21/21.*

Mr. Glover reported that Senator Blessing has agreed to meet with the District regarding: *H.B. 110 (Oelslager) to make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023, to levy taxes, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.* Mr. Kearney stated that he would work with Interim Superintendent Amat to arrange the meeting.

#### **Update: Strategic Plan Strategy 2.1**

Assistant Superintendent Bunte submitted the following written report to the Committee.

##### **Cincinnati Health Department School Based Health Centers - Services Provided**

Currently, Cincinnati Health Department operates 13 School-Based Health Centers (SBHC), providing services to 14 Cincinnati Public Schools. Six of these health centers have onsite dental centers and 2 have on-site vision centers. The SBHCs (including dental and vision) are open and offer services for students throughout the District. Preventive services, including well care, dental care and vision, are provided throughout the school year with several locations offering services throughout the summer.

Currently, the Immunization Rate at CHD SBHCs is at 75 percent.

A copy of the Growing Well School Based Health Center Utilization Reports is available upon request and in the Board office.

#### **Grant Us Hope Update**

Assistant Superintendent Bunte submitted the following written report to the Committee.

##### **Suicide Prevention Programming**

Ms. Bunte, Dr. Bunger, and Meg Burrows, School Social Worker, have met with two community partners, Grant Us Hope and Sources of Strength. Please see requested program samples, relevant research, and potential plans for school partnership.

##### **Hope Squads**

Community Partner: Grant Us Hope  
Number of Potential School Partners: 2 funding dependent

##### **Sources of Strength**

Community Partner: 1 in5  
Number of Potential School Partners: 3-6 at no cost

### Vaping Training in Collaboration with Cincinnati Health Department

Dr. Bunger and Meg Burrows have reached out to the Cincinnati Health Department to pilot the anti-vaping training in two schools this year. The Alternative Learning Center paraprofessionals as well as selected school staff will be trained to provide the intervention. PSC will monitor Code of Conduct violations in the area of vaping to determine impact.

### Attendance Awareness Month

September is Ohio School Attendance Awareness Month. The Positive School Culture Department has been sharing weekly activities that school social workers, principals, and school teams can do to encourage consistent attendance.

### August Discipline Data

<b>CPS Discipline Data</b>	2018	2019	2020*	2021
<b>ODR Total</b>	954	600	1	681
<b>Exclusionary Consequence Total</b>	559	351	0	296
<b>Percentage of Referrals that led to Exclusionary Consequence</b>	58.50%	58.50%	0%	43.5%

### Top Five Consequences in 2021

1. ALC (105)
2. Alt. Placement Center (66)
3. ER (58)
4. OSS (32)
4. Conference with Students (32)

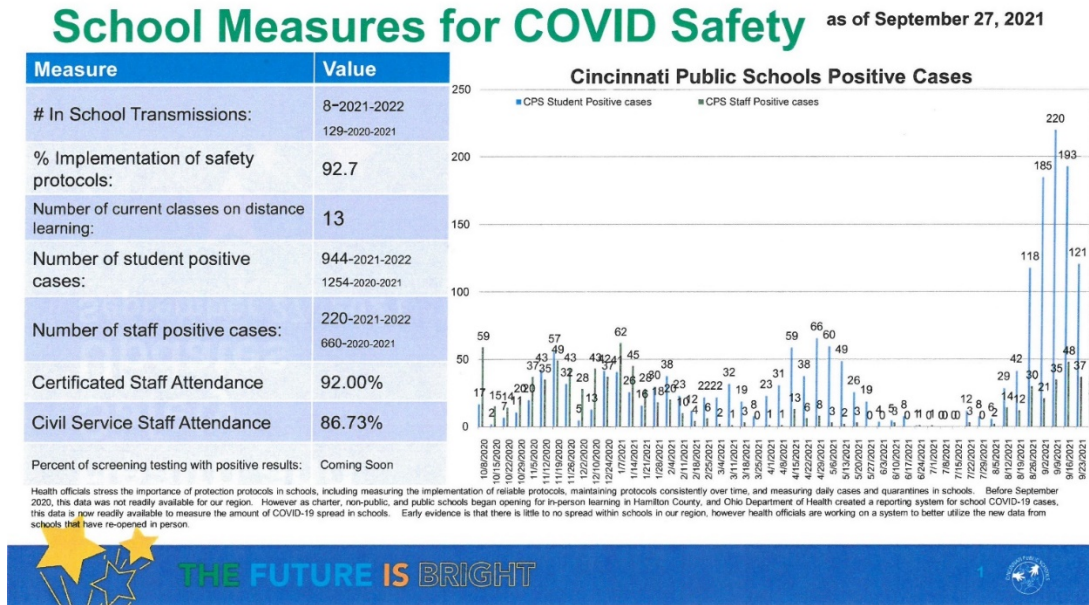
<b>Percentage of Referrals by Race</b>	
Black	80%
White	8.80%
Hispanic	2.20%
Multiracial	7%
Asian	1.30%
American Indian	0.10%
Pacific Islander	
<b>Percentage of Student Referrals by IEP (20%)</b>	35%
<b>Percentage of Exclusions by Race</b>	
Black	80%
White	10%
Hispanic	3.40%
Multiracial	5.70%
Pacific Islander	
American Indian	0.30%
Asian	
<b>Percentage of Student Exclusions by IEP (20%)</b>	37%

## Task Force Stakeholder / CPS' Anti-Racism Policy 2255

Included in SRO Update.

### Health Update

Assistant Superintendent Bunte updated the Committee on the following COVID safety measures.



Ms. Bunte reported that she is tracking the number of staff that have and have not been vaccinated.

Ms. Bunte reported that Booster Shot clinics will be offered at the District.

Interim Superintendent Amat informed the Committee about employees having difficulty in uploading vaccinations into the system.

She also advised Ms. Bunte to consider extending the October 1 date due to technology causing the delay.

### COVID-19 Pandemic

Ms. Bunte reported the following COVID-19 information to the Committee.

- Positive Students since August 1, 2021 – 944
- Positive Staff since July 1, 2021 – 220
- Students Quarantined – 984

She informed the Committee about the following vaccine events.

1. Week of September 27, 2021 – Vaccination clinics begin in high schools
2. October 1, 2021 – Submission deadline for vaccine mandate
3. October 2, 2021 – Open vaccination clinic at Woodward, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, students and staff

Surveillance testing is currently at 18 schools. All schools will be participating by Thanksgiving.

### **School Resource Officer (SRO) Update**

Assistant Superintendent Murphy informed the Committee about the following Safety Planning Team's goals in addressing SROs.

1. Review the Memorandum of Understanding between Cincinnati Public Schools and the City of Cincinnati on behalf of the Cincinnati Police Department (copy available upon request and in the Board office).
2. Provide ongoing Professional Development in restorative practices.
3. Redesign of The Promise Center.
4. Implement Alternative Learning Centers in schools.
5. Collect data highlighting results of the SRO Program.

Her presentation included the following elements and is available upon request and in the Board Office.

1. SRO Timeline: July 2021 – October 2021
2. Anti-Racism Policy Participants
3. Memorandum of Understanding: Purpose of SROs – Dan Hoying

### **Powerschool Data**

Connie Solano, Interim Chief Information Officer, updated the Committee about the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) – Department of Education.

### **CRDC Data – Background Information**

- The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has authority under section 203(c)(1) of the Department of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3413(c)(1)), and the regulations implementing several of the civil rights statutes that it implements, to collect data that are necessary to ensure compliance with civil rights laws within the jurisdiction of OCR.
- Former Superintendent received a letter from the United States Department of Education Office of Civil Rights dated March 22, 2019.
- Letter indicated that our district's restraint and seclusion data raised questions regarding accuracy.

### **CRDC Submission 2017-2018**

- As a result of the letter received, efforts were made to ensure future submissions were complete and accurate.
- CRDC survey requires (among other data):
  - Students (K-12) who were referred to law enforcement agency or official;
  - Students (K-12) who were arrested for school-related activity;
  - Student race, gender, IEP and EL status are also submitted with these data.
- There were two sources of data:
  - PowerSchool Student Information System;
  - Police Logs.
- Minimal data regarding law enforcement was found in the EMIS and CRDC fields in the student Information System in 2017-2018.
- Notes in PowerSchool were reviewed to determine what incidents met the criteria for EMIS and CRDC reporting and entered into the appropriate fields.

**ACTION:** Committee Chair Bates would like to see data that was submitted to the CRDC by the Young Activists Coalition and data submitted by CPS to the CRDC.

Interim Superintendent Amat reported that she will pull the data from EMIS.

The Education Management Information System (EMIS) is a statewide data collection system for Ohio's primary and secondary education, including demographic information, attendance, course information, financial data, and test results.

The Civil Rights Data Collection is a biennial (*i.e.*, every other school year) survey of public schools required by OCR since 1968.

The CRDC collects data on leading civil rights indicators related to access and barriers to educational opportunity from preschool through 12th grade.

#### Monitoring Plan

Mr. Bell updated the Committee on the following:

#### **Research Data Points**

- \*Totals represent CPS and non-CPS schools.
- Criminal charges range from felony theft (*i.e.* stolen cell phone) to stage related status crimes (*i.e.* runaway warrant).
- Criminal charges and physical arrest are not the same.
  - Student can have multiple charges with one arrest.
- Findings suggest CPS is not aware of criminal charges through disciplinary records.
  - CPS is made aware of arrest and removal for reporting purposes

\*Student identity name will remain confidential.

Mr. Bell reported the CPD will submit to CPS monthly arrest information involving students arrested on school property. The data will include: age, sex, race, location of school, and criminal charges.

#### Task Force Members

Ms. Murphy informed the Committee about Community members (Kurt Billups, Ozie Davis, Rico Grant, Shawn Jeffers, Iris Roley, Rod Walton, Vanessa White) who worked with the Administration and Cohear in listening sessions.

Principals and School Resource Officers will meet together on September 30, 2021.

Committee member Bowers advised to make it clear in the MOU the roles and responsibilities of SROs, as it relates to disciplining students, and the use of SROs in elementary schools.

Interim Superintendent Amat advised to also include annual training for the Principals and SROs.

Mr. Messer asked about the possibility of SROs receiving coaching training as part of the plan to help in the assessment of SROs. Ms. Amat stated that coaching is a part of Positive School Culture and Restorative Practices.

Ms. Murphy reported that Mr. Bell, Director of Safety and Security, is the SRO's Administrative contact person.

**ACTION:** School Resource Officers will be a topic on the November 3, 2021, Committee of the Whole meeting. Mr. Bell will lead the conversation and invite Lieutenant Chantia Pearson, SRO Supervisor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

**Health and Safety Committee**

Melanie Bates, Chair

Pamela Bowers

Ryan Messer

**Staff Liaisons**

Tianay Amat, Interim Superintendent

Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent

Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Strategy Officer, *absent*