



**July 19**

**2021**

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

The Health and Safety Committee met on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 4:00 PM in LaunchED, Room 110, at the Cincinnati Public Schools Education Center.

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; Dr. Carrie Bungler, Director of Positive School Culture and Safety; Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent; Shauna Murphy, Assistant Superintendent; Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Strategy Officer

### **CPS Government Liaisons**

Eric Kearney, CEO, Kearney and Kearney

## **FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY DUE TO LACK OF A QUORUM**

### **Governmental Liaison Report on Particular and Immediate Legislative Topics - George Glover, Focused Capital Solutions; Eric Kearney, Kearney and Kearney**

Mr. Kearney reported that his work has been around the Ohio Budget.

An analysis of the Ohio Budget FY 2022-2023 can be found here:

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17057&format=pdf>

This link is a line by line Analysis of the Ohio Budget FY 2022-2023:

<https://www.lsc.ohio.gov/documents/budget/134/mainoperating/SP/appropriationspreadsheet-hb110-sp.pdf>

Mr. Kearney reported that he met at the Statehouse with Krista Boyle, Chief Strategic Engagement Communication Officer, Minority Leader Yuko, Senator Blessing, Senator Sykes, Representative Ingram, Representative Kelly, Representative Denson, and Representative Manning to talk about the impact of the budget, transportation, voucher-monies going directly to charter schools, and determining how to regulate funding to make sure that it is handled properly.

He also set up a phone call with Senator Blessing and Treasurer Wagner to discuss the budget and reported there was not a lot of movement on the Bills due to the budget.

He informed the Committee that the following educational House Bills will be coming forward in the House after break.

- \* 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. 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 teach 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. 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.*

## QUORUM PRESENT

Committee Chairperson Bates inquired about the status of eliminating the [Step Up to Quality](#) (SUTQ) Bill. The Board opposed the bill. Mr. Kearney reported that discussions took place with legislators during conferences.

Mr. Kearney reported that the Urban 8 schools and other school districts across the state supported CPS' opposition to the SUTQ Bill.

He also reported that the budget included most of the District's asks, Treasurer Wagner's proposed items, as well as 250 million dollars for Broadband.

Mr. Kearney informed the Committee that information about transportation was not available, although the legislators loved the District's Summer Scholars program.

Mr. Kearney will follow-up on that status and legalities of returning to in-person meetings.

Committee member Bowers informed the Committee that General Counsel Hoying will be discussing returning to in-person meetings with the Board at the June 28, 2021, 6:30 pm Regular Business meeting.

### **CPS Facilities Safe Community Update**

Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Strategy Officer reported that CPS has been partnering with the City of Cincinnati over the past year to create the Vision Zero Safe Routes to School Action Plan.

She informed the Committee that the Advisory Committee has met several times with various community stakeholders. She reported that a robust data analysis was done on roadways, traffic crashes, traffic volume, pedestrian accidents and speed limits. This data went into a prioritization formula to determine where to spend time and funding for the project.

Ms. Trimble-Oliver reported that in year 2020, the City of Cincinnati had 108 Vision 2020 Projects and that 73 percent were in a half mile of a school.

The District received a Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure grant two weeks ago and will use it for an interactive pedestrian safety program at the schools, as well as including the crossing guard program.

The City received the infra-structure part of the grant that will help add projects to their current list of projects: School Crossing at Woodard, sidewalk at Mt. Airy. The City is also applying their own vision 2020 funds to complete 11 projects on their list that will be completed by December 2021.

Committee member Bowers asked if the non-infrastructure grant can be used to increase student crossing guards. Ms. Trimble-Oliver will follow-up on Ms. Bowers question.

### **Student Code of Conduct / Discipline Data**

Assistant Superintendent Bunte reported that she shared the Code of Conduct with all Board members for input. The document will be include in the June 28, 2021 Superintendent Recommendations for approval at the Board's June 28, 2021, 6:30 pm, Regular Business meeting.

Dr. Bunger updated the Committee on her following Positive School Culture and Safety Data. She informed the Committee about incidents and consequences in the month of May.

**Discipline Data: Year to Year Comparison – Spring 2021 (ODR –Office Discipline Referral)**

	April 2019	April 2020	April 2021	May 2019	May 2020	May 2021
ODR Total	4095		1497	3115		1526
Exclusionary Consequence Total	2479		688	2008		854
Percentage of Referrals that lead to an exclusionary consequence	61%		46%	64.5%		55.96%

Ms. Bunger updated the Committee on her below timeline toward completion of the: Student Support Guide 2021-22 Code of Conduct K-12 *Building Antiracist and Restorative School Communities*.



Ms. Bunger informed the Committee about the *City of Cincinnati's free Anti-Vaping* program.

She reported that Western Hills High School is a pilot for the program that will begin in September 2021.

She stated that Alternative Learning Center paraprofessionals, mental health workers and school nurses will be trained on the program.

Completing the program is more restorative, versus sending students to the Promise Center or removing them from school.

Dr. Bunger updated the Committee on her below plan for Professional Development (PD) in 2021-2022. She stated that PD aligns with the Health and Safety goals and strategies that are contained in the District’s Strategic Plan.

**Positive School Culture PD (Professional Development) Arc 2021-22**

Topic	Audience	Planned Date
Trauma Informed Educator Series	Teachers Security Admin ESPs Paras	Ongoing online training
SEL PD Day Code of Conduct/PBIS/Examining Equitable Practices Bully Prevention	All Building Staff	August 17, 2021
PBIS Work Sessions Tier 2, MTSS, Incorporating SEL and Trauma	PBIS Teams	Fall 2021, Spring 2022
Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) How to respond to students presenting with mental health concerns	Optional training for all certificated and classified staff	Ongoing
Restorative Practices Training	Phased In with Promise Center and ALC paras	August/September

Dr. Bunger will provide the Committee with a discipline data report.

Ms. Bunte informed the Committee that the Promise Center (formerly called A2E/A2S) will resume in August 2021.

Dr. Bunger reported that discipline data for Summer Scholars has not been entered into PowerSchool. She informed the group that principals worked hard to keep students in school.

**Grant Us Hope Update**

Assistant Superintendent Bunte informed the Committee that she and Dr. Bunger met with Grant Us Hope.

Ms. Bunte stated that she and Dr. Bunger expressed their concerns about the cultural relevance of the curriculum that students and staff would use.

Ms. Bunte and Dr. Bunger will be meeting with Grant Us Hope the week of June 28, 2021 to review the information.

Ms. Bunte informed the Committee that she is anticipating beginning the program in two high schools in the fall once the materials have been revised. She also talked about phasing the program into two schools in the winter.

Interim Superintendent Tianay Amat inquired as to why the program is being offered due to the District having current suicide prevention programs currently in place.

Dr. Bunger reported that the City of Cincinnati appropriated funds for the program and expressed interest in partnering with the District.

**ACTION:** Ms. Bunte and Dr. Bunger will update the Committee on the organization's curriculum at the August 23, 2021, 4:00 pm, Health and Safety Committee meeting.

Committee member Bowers expressed concern about Grant Us Hope's current material that has not been used in urban school districts, why CPS is considering the program and Grant Us Hope's curriculum not being in line with CPS' equity policies, and that there are programs already in place in the District, as well as no data of the program being used in urban areas, or the effectiveness of the program in urban areas.

Committee Chair Bates stated that she was aware that the program was approved by the State, but not sure if any of these type programs were offered at CPS.

Ms. Bowers advised the Administration to provide feedback about the curriculum to the Committee before launching a pilot of the program at the schools.

Grant Us Hope is a change agent for teen suicide prevention in the Greater Cincinnati region. They are passionate about providing a platform for teens, parents, and families to engage in pro-mental health conversations, activities, and solutions, and committed to expanding the availability, reach, and impact of mental health services for teens in distress. <https://grantushope.org/about/>

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

Assistant Superintendent Murphy reported that the Health and Safety Committee previously heard the results of the focus groups that Cohear hosted concerning CPS and SROs.

Cohear met again with a group of parents and a group of students. They have now expanded their report to include findings from the high school principals.

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

Committee Chair Bates reiterated that Board members received a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the SRO's. The document expires in year 2024.

Interim Superintendent Amat inquired about the comfortability of the Board and the Committee engaging parents, principals, and community members that have done historical work with the police department, to participate in the discussion of the MOU in order to bring awareness about the SRO's.

**ACTION:** The Committee agreed with Ms. Amat's recommendation of including the above stakeholder and community members in the discussion regarding the MOU and SRO's.

The Committee will discuss the outcome of engagement meeting at their September 27, 2021 meeting. This will be the first item on the agenda.

Ms. Amat will provide the Committee with a timeline of the work that she will be doing.

Ms. Bates reported that Officer Eddie Hawkins hosted a visit with police cadets at Hays-Porter on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. Assistant Superintendent Murphy, HSC Committee members Bates and Bowers visited with the cadets.

Ms. Bates stated that she and Mrs. Bowers spoke with the cadets, reviewed the program and talked extensively with the SRO's.

They learned that there was not an efficient way for the SRO's to communicate with the Administration. SRO's communicating with the Administration will be on the agenda for discussion when the engagement committee is formed. Many concerns and questions were also brought up by the SRO's.

Interim Superintendent Amat reported that she hired a Director of Safety to look at health and safety in CPS schools.

**COVID-19 Pandemic**

Ms. Trimble-Oliver reported that a hard copy of the Health and Safety Report will be provided to the Board at the June 28, 2021 Regular Business Meeting. She also reported that there were no changes to community or school measures as of date.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 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