

Santa Fe Safety and Security Meeting

Barnett Elementary Campus

February 21, 2024, 4:30pm-6:00pm

Members present: Chief Ruben Espinoza, Jennifer Smith, Richard Adkins, Bob Atkins, Chief Walter Braun, John Couch, Karlee Custer, Garrett Foskit, James Grassmuck, Rachel Harris, Chris Harrison, Laura Norman, Rusty Norman, Richard Summerville, Brad Burness

Chief Espinoza welcomed the committee members at 4:35pm to start the meeting. The meeting was held at Barnett Elementary campus in the library.

Old Business:

- Cops Grant update- The camera installation is complete. One member asked if the transportation camera had been installed for safety on the back of the building. Chief Espinoza stated yes it has.
- Two-way radio communication is still in process. We have ordered some campus radios and are waiting for the TEA SAFE grant to open in March to purchase additional radio equipment.
- The following Annexes were updated and just approved by Texas School Safety Center in January 2023 - Severe Weather Annex with the Severe Thunderstorm, Flooding, Hurricane, Winter Storm, Tornado Appendices and the Hazardous Material Annex with Highway Hazmat and Train Derailment Appendices.
- The Texas Comptroller Office advised that mere store names of Vape Shops are not considered "Advertisement" therefore vape shops within 1000 feet of school property are considered legal.

New Business:

- Intruder Detection Audits: The district had two audits since our last meeting. One at Santa Fe Junior High and one at Barnett Elementary. They both had zero findings. We have two more campuses that will have audits before the end of the school year.
- Thank you to Galveston ISD Chief of Police Rivas for providing assistance with a K9 unit. We have conducted 2 additional K9 searches since our last meeting.
- The SFISD Police Department has applied for additional ballistic shields through the Bullet-Resistant Grant Program.
- Chief Espinoza talked about the parent and student survey the district sent out in the Fall. Included in the survey were questions on safety and security. We have about 1340 students enrolled at the High School. We had 201 parents and 909 students take the

survey. We have about 1005 students enrolled at the Junior High and we had 241 parents and 524 students take the survey.

A few of the questions asked in the surveys were:

- SFJH provides a safe learning environment?
- SFHS provides a safe learning environment?
- I feel like bullying is taken seriously at SFJH?
- SFJH has a welcoming, positive climate for parents and students?
- Overall, I feel safe at my school.
- I feel Safe in our hallways
- I know what to do in case of an emergency.
- I feel safe on the bus.
- I feel safe in our bathrooms.

Parents and students could answer with one of the following answers: Not applicable, never, sometimes, often, or all of the time. A member suggested that maybe the survey could add a comment section if they answered never to get a better feel of why they picked their answer. Another member asked if Staff take a similar survey. Mrs. Custer explained they do have a similar survey; but we did not have that information with us at the meeting.

Questions or concerns:

- A member asked how a school bus would be stopped if it was stolen or highjacked. They wanted to know if the ISD, City or DPS had spike strips. We had a few Law Enforcement officers in the room and they all stated they probably would not use spike strips to stop the bus. A few other options would come into play first.
- One member asked about having students attend the Safety meeting to talk about safety concerns. One member suggested Dr. Bott has a student advisory committee he meets with and they might be a good group to bring in. We will send a message to the student leader and set up a time.
- One member asked if the department was having any issues with the new legislative changes. Chief Espinoza said he has not run into any issues at this point.
- One member would like to add the ALC building in our committee tours.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm and Chief Espinoza took the members who wanted to attend on a tour of Barnett Elementary.

Next Meeting: July 31st 4:30pm at Roy J Wollam