



CARROLL ISD SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES October 15, 2024

The first meeting of the Carroll ISD Safety & Security Committee (SSSC) for the 2024-2025 school year was called to order by SSSC District Lead and Assistant Superintendent for Administration, Mr. Brian Nickel on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, beginning at 4:34 PM in the Carroll ISD Administration Center, 2400 N. Carroll Avenue, Southlake, TX 76092.

Chairman Mark Flores welcomed SSSC members, including the Superintendent, Teachers, Staff, Community Members, and City Representatives from Emergency Management and School Resource Officers. Chairman Flores welcomed new SSSC members for the 2024-25 school year.

The SSSC reviewed its purpose: The School Safety and Security Committee is a working group of diverse individuals that serves the members of its school district by helping create and maintain a safe and secure school climate and culture for staff and students.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Secretary Amy Simcox highlighted the minutes from the July 31st meeting, then the SSSC transitioned into the current agenda.

THREAT ASSESSMENTS AND DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Flores raised for discussion the scope and extent of communications regarding potential threat assessments. The committee discussed the proper identification and categorization of threats by the Department of Homeland Security, and appropriate scope of messaging in response to disciplinary student issues versus tangible threats in the district.

CISD and the City of Southlake have engaged in discussion and efforts to improve collaboration of communications.

UPDATES

a. CISD – Mr. Nickel

- Security film installation project is complete.
- Door maintenance project is underway. Two bids have been received, awaiting a third bid as required to apply grant funds.
- Mapping project is underway.
- State has transitioned to new platform for security – Sentinel. State keeps track of intruder audits, behavioral threat assessment tracking, compliance requirements. Mr. Nickel lauded the transition to the new platform as a streamlined, efficient system that benefits the district.
- New staff active shooter training is complete.

b. SROs – Captain Hernandez

- No major updates. Division is full. Efforts underway to improve operational capacity regarding camera surveillance on campuses.

c. Emergency Management Coordinators – Kennedy Meehan

- No updates.

d. CISD Technology – Mr. Nickel

- Assisting SROs on camera surveillance efforts.

EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN

Mr. Nickel informed the committee of the annual review and update of the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP), and efforts to streamline and improve the EOP. EOP submission by October 23, 2024.

a. Cybersecurity Annex – John Salazar

Mr. Salazar led a presentation on CISD cybersecurity.

- Between 2016 and 2022, over 1,600 cybersecurity incidents reported across K-12 public schools.
- Compromised credentials account for over 70% of ransomware entry points in TX ISDs.
- CISD's email security system:
 - Impersonation protection – 776 impersonation attempts last month.
 - URL protection – 10k clicks per week, 20 marked as unsafe last week.
 - Awareness training – improves end user response to malicious email attacks using tutorials and tests to help users better spot phishing emails.
- Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)
 - Allows visibility into activity within the CISD network to respond to potential cyberattacks.
 - Meets cybersecurity compliance requirements – NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) 2.0.
- Security Operations Center (SOC)
 - 24/7 monitoring of logs sent by the SIEM solution.
- Offsite Air Gapped Backups
 - Ensures backup data is not accessible to hackers or malware.
 - CISD can recover from a disaster event.
- Cybersecurity Audit
 - Two penetration tests have been performed.
 - Internal & external vulnerability scans are being performed.
 - Audit of policies using NIST Cybersecurity Framework.

OTHER QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

CISD Trustee Bryan informed the committee that the Board will consider installation of informational signage regarding armed officers' presence on campuses.

The committee discussed current safety protocols for campus deliveries by vendors, etc.

Next Meeting: April 15, 2025

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No items for Executive Session.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:16pm.