



March 7

2022

REPORT OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Health and Safety Committee (HSC) met on Monday, February 28, 2022, 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 Mary Wineberg, Carolyn Jones, Kareem Moffett, Ph.D.

Administration/Staff

Tianay Amat, Interim Superintendent; William Bell, Director of Safety and Security; Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent; Connie Solano, Interim Chief Operations Officer

CPS Government Liaisons

Eric Kearney, CEO, Kearney and Kearney

Virtual Attendees: 6

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 *Of Note* items contained in the February 28, 2022, Monthly Report.

Of Note

- * Meeting with Board Members re: Government Relations Work
- * Redistricting...Redistricting...Redistricting

- * The U.S. Department of Education, in partnership with the National Comprehensive Center, released a resource to help states share their progress on deploying Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). The funds, totaling \$122 billion, help states "support safe in-person instruction; address the effects of lost instructional time due to COVID-19; and meet the social, emotional, mental health and academic needs of students." This tool, called the "ARP Partnership, Assistance, Transformation, and Heightened Support (ARP PATHS)," will help states describe their strategies and offer an example to other states regarding this funding.

- * Nearly half of school superintendents responding to a national survey said they're thinking about leaving their jobs amid the stresses of political battles. In the survey from the Education Advisory Board, which offers data, research and other services to schools and higher education institutions, 80 percent of superintendents surveyed said "managing politically divisive conversations" is now the most challenging part of the job. The survey drew 141 responses from superintendents in 32 states, including Ohio, from December to early February. Rural district superintendents were the most likely to respond, making up 55 percent of respondents, followed by suburban (34 percent) and urban (11 percent).

- * A Franklin County judge overseeing assets of the defunct Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT) has agreed to pull the plug on the servers holding the former online charter school's data. The Ohio Department of Education and Auditor Keith Faber's office did not object to ending a contract with a technology vendor to preserve the servers, the attorney overseeing school affairs on the court's behalf told Common Pleas Judge Michael Holbrook in a motion requesting termination of the contract. Faber's office is working to complete the final audit of ECOT.
- * Ohio Dyslexia Committee (ODC) Chair Mike McGovern of the International Dyslexia Association proposed Tuesday that members of his committee and members of the State Board of Education's (SBOE) Teaching, Leading, and Learning (TLL) Committee meet to discuss the upcoming Ohio Dyslexia Guidebook. The ODC, compiled of experts on dyslexia, was created under 133-HB436 (Baldrige) and charged with creating a guidebook focused on the best practices and methods for screening and teaching children with dyslexia or children displaying dyslexic characteristics. However, the guidebook has been the source of confusion and some tension at the SBOE, with 11 of 14 members voicing uncertainty about what exactly their role is in approving the guidebook, which must first be approved by TLL and then the full board. Members have also expressed concerns about the financial toll to districts and teachers and suggested the guidebook could be perceived as "insulting" to teachers.

A copy of the full report that includes additional information about the following topics and other Bills, is available upon request and in the Board office.

- School Board Committee Set to Advance Report Card Rules
- Funding Formula in House Bill 290
- Debate Continues in Briefs on Parent Intervention in Voucher Lawsuit
- USDOE (U.S. Department of Education) Releases Tools to Help States Share Progress with ARP (American Rescue Plan) Funds for Schools
- Limit on School Board Members' Terms

The Legislative Liaisons informed the Committee about their outline for CPS' Government Relations Strategy for year 2022. The document will adapt and is subject to change as issues arise. The document includes: Priority Goals; Identifying Legislative Champions; Building Relationships with Legislative Champions; Tracking Legislation and Communications, and Communication Updates to Champions.

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

Mr. Kearney updated the Committee on the following Bills in response to the Health and Safety Committee's request at the January 31, 2022 Committee meeting. *A copy of the full report is available upon request and in the Board office.*

H.B. 34 (Ingram) Require schools to transmit certain student's records within 5 days. Bill is of interest to CPS Administration. **The Bill was re-referred to Rules and Reference on 2/7/22.**

H.B. 67 (Koehler and Bird) The bill would: For the 2020-2021 school year, permits an 11th or 12th grade student who takes or retakes or who is unable to take or retake an end-of-course Page 1 of 6 exam to use the final course grade in a course associated with the exam in lieu of a score on that exam to satisfy conditions for a high school diploma. **This bill enacted into law on 3/20/21.**

H.B. 73 (Manning) 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. **This bill was referred to the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 2/10/21.**

H.B. 82 (Cross and Jones) The bill would: 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, replacing the

A to F letter grade system with a “star” performance rating system. **This Bill was enacted into law on 9/30/21.**

H.B. 151 (Jones) to replace the Ohio Teacher Residency program with local new teacher mentorship programs beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. As well, the bill requires individuals issued a resident educator license by way of the Teach for America Program to Page 3 of 6 complete the new teacher mentorship program. **This bill was referred to the Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 2/24/21.**

H.B. 200 (Jones and Robinson) to revise the state report card and school accountability systems. 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. **This bill was referred to the Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 3/16/21.**

H.B. 205 (Ghanbari and Sheehy) Collin’s Law: The Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act. 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. Requires that the policy authorize the imposition of a detention, suspension, or alternative form of discipline for an offense of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, as determined appropriate under the circumstances. **This bill was referred to the Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 3/16/21.**

H.B. 240 (Stoltzfus and Fowler Arthur) to enact the Parents Right to Know Act to enforce school district compliance with venereal disease or teen pregnancy prevention instruction requirements. **This bill was referred to the Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 4/14/21.**

H.B. 327 (Grendel and Fowler Arthur) The bill would: Prohibits school districts, community schools, STEM schools, state agencies, and state institutions of higher education from teaching “divisive concepts” or accepting private funding to further promotion of “divisive concepts.” Requires the Department of Education to withhold funding from a school district or school that violates the bill’s provisions until such time as the district or school complies. **This bill was referred to the State and Local Government Committee on 6/10/21.**

H.B. 334 (Sobecki and Ingram) regarding school district board member compensation and ethics and open meetings training. The Bill would require each member of a school district board of education to complete training on ethics, public records, and open meetings. **This Bill was referred to the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 06/10/21.**

S.B. 145 (Brenner) The Bill would: 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. **This Bill was referred to the Primary and Secondary Education Committee on 3/24/21.**

Pedestrian Safety

Interim Chief Operations Officer Solano updated the Committee on her memo: *Update on FY202/2021 Pedestrian Safety Program* from Mel McVay, Senior City Planner for the City of Cincinnati.

The memo included information about pedestrian safety projects that have been completed and to be completed; design of new crosswalks near Aiken and Walnut Hills High Schools and school flashers for Woodward High School; projects in design; funding through Safe Routes to School, City Pedestrian Safety Funding, and State of Ohio Pedestrian Safety Improvement Program.

A copy of the memo is attached and the List of Safety Projects is available upon request and in the Board Office.

Committee member Moffett and Chair Wineberg asked about procedures for schools to get pedestrian safety signage, school zone, speed zones and crosswalks. The members’ referenced Shroder High School (Duckcreek Road) and Pleasant Ridge Montessori, as well as the sidewalk at Mt. Washington School needing repair. Repair is also needed for the flooring at Cheviot school.

The members also reported that a crosswalk is needed for the School for Creative and Performing Arts (12th Street) as well as a gate to prevent others from using the parking lot after hours.

ACTION: Ms. Solano will contact the City about the above pedestrian safety concerns and provide procedural information in addressing these type of concerns. She will also find out if the Advisory Committee for Vision Zero is still in existence.

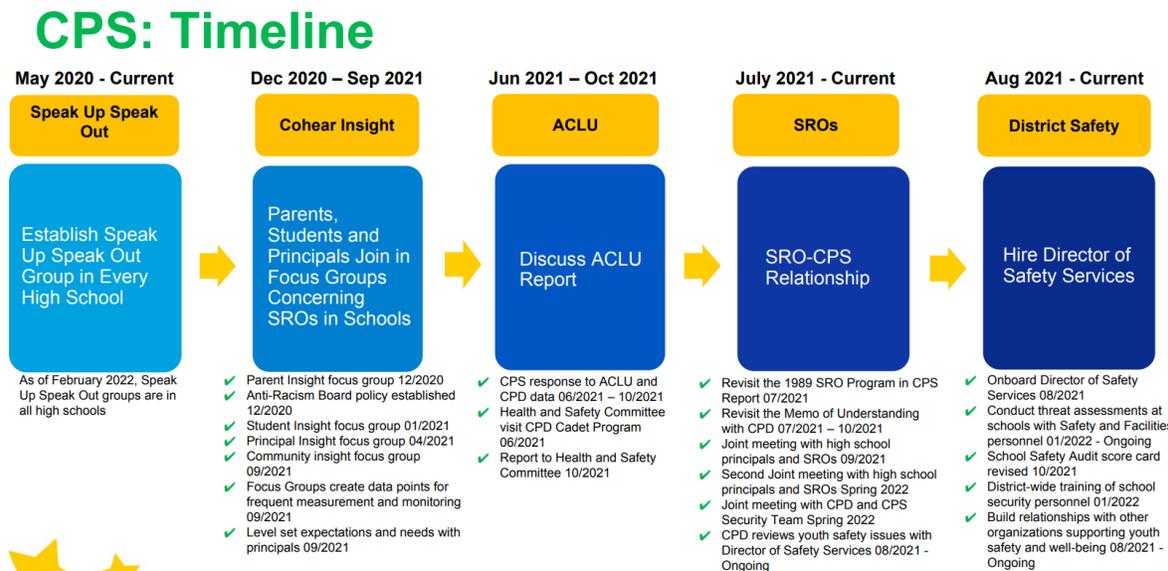
ACTION: The Committee advised the Administration to look into how concerns about the above schools can addressed.

Interim Superintendent Amat informed the Committee that the Pedestrian Safety Plan is with the City

ACTION: Committee member Jones recommended that Committee members Moffett and Wineberg have a conversation with Board member Bolton and former Board member Melanie Bates to get a historical perspective about the Pedestrian Safety Plan.

School Resource Officer Update

Ms. Solano updated the Committee on the following presentation:



Ms. Solano informed the Committee about the Cadet Academy and will look into when those meetings take place to begin ongoing conversations. The Cadet program is an annual summer program.

Safety Director Bell reported that the program is offered yearly to high school students as a summer job and that it is sponsored and managed by the Cincinnati Police Department.

Mr. Bell reported that tools are put in place for security in the schools and efforts are made to make sure that policies put in place are observed. He also advised that he will be hiring security to fill vacancies.

Mr. Bell reported that he works with Facilities to identify the problem when cameras are broken in school buildings.

Committee member Jones informed the Committee about a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that the District has with the City for School Resource Officers (SROs).

ACTION: The Administration will provide the Committee with a copy of the MOU for the SROs.

Booster Mandates

Assistant Superintendent Bunte reported that 1,069 CPS employees have self-reported that they have received the vaccine booster, which represents 16 percent of the District's total population.

She also stated that submissions of boosters are voluntary, and employees that get the vaccine booster will receive \$100 in Wellness Points.

Ms. Bunte reported that currently the new variant is low in the City and that it is similar to the Omicron variant and easily transmissible.

Cyber Bullying

Meg Burrows updated the Committee on the following information contained in her memo about Cyber Bullying.

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through SMS, Text, and apps, or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation.

Nationally, according to the 2019 School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey (National Center for Education Statistics and Bureau of Justice), about 16 percent of students in grades 9–12 experienced cyberbullying.

In CPS, during the summer and first semester 2021, 47 cyberbullying incidents were reported. All of these reports also contained other forms of bullying. The total number of substantiated and unsubstantiated incidents for CPS during this time was 278.

The report also included information about its following unique concerns: *Persistent, Hard to Notice and Permanent.*

Bully Notification Across Languages The bullying allegation button and FAQs are currently translated into Spanish, French and Arabic. Currently Spanish, French and Arabic make up 80.2% of languages within CPS. The top 3 languages are: Spanish (62.7%, includes Mam as Mam speakers also speak Spanish), French (13.5%; includes many of the African population that speak Wolof, Bambara, Soninke, as French is a secondary language) and Arabic (4%). We will continue to collaborate with the ELL department as additional languages increase within the district as well as additional ways to provide support.

She also reported on Substantiated vs. Unsubstantiated Cases of Bullying.

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

2022 Committee Workplan Final Review

The Committee reviewed the Workplan (attached) and Assistant Superintendent Bunte recommended to move the Code of Conduct from May 2022 to June 2022 for discussion.

The Committee advised to add LGBT to the December 2022 Workplan.

ACTION: The Committee will recommend the Workplan to the Board for approval at the March 7, 2022 Regular Business meeting.

Other Business

Childhood Trauma Resolution

At its February 24, 2022 meeting, the Policy and Equity Committee referred the House of Representatives’ Resolution Urging the Governor to Declare a State of Emergency on Childhood Trauma in Ohio to the Health and Safety Committee for their review.

The Committee reviewed the Resolution and expressed their support about the District writing a resolution in support the House’s Resolution.

Hearing of the Public

There were no speakers for Hearing the Public.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm

Health and Safety Committee

Mary Wineberg, Chair
Carolyn Jones
Kareem Moffett, Ph.D.

Staff Liaisons

Tianay Amat, Interim Superintendent
Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent
Connie Solano, Interim Chief Operations Officer

Date: October 5, 2021

FOR YOUR INFORMATION MEMO

To: Connie Solano, Interim Chief Operating Officer, CPS

From: Mel McVay, Senior City Planner, DOTE

Subject: UPDATE ON FY2020/2021 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM

*Attached is a list of pedestrian safety projects that are adjacent to schools and recreation facilities. The projects on this list are all substantially complete. Any remaining work will be completed by December 31, 2021. There were many project types in this round of funding, including: raised crosswalks, bump outs, updated signage, restriped crosswalks etc. The projects on this list were funded by a combination of city Pedestrian Safety funding and State of Ohio Pedestrian Safety Improvement Program funding.

The Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE) has also recently designed new crosswalks to be installed near Walnut Hills High School and Aiken High School. The timing of that installation work is dependent on the Department of Public Services.

Two other projects are also currently in design: new sidewalk on Kirby Rd (the walking route from Sun Valley Apartments to Mt. Airy Elementary) and new school flashers for Woodward High School. These projects were collaboratively selected by DOTE and CPS for submission as FY2021 State Safe Routes to School grant applications. The projects were awarded a total of \$400,000 and the City of Cincinnati is responsible for any costs over that amount. ODOT has the funding scheduled to be available in FY2024, but the city has requested earlier release if possible.

The State will begin accepting FY2022 Safe Routes to School grant applications on January 3, 2022 with a deadline of March 4, 2022. DOTE will collaborate with CPS to select infrastructure projects to submit for consideration. Funding for that grant cycle will be available in FY2025.

DOTE is currently realigning the Pedestrian Safety program to better reflect community concerns. The citywide FY2022 program will have a focus on traffic calming, particularly bump outs and speed cushions. Speed cushions are similar to speed humps but have wheel cutouts to allow emergency vehicles to pass unimpeded. During the month of October DOTE will reach out to every community council (and CPS) to request locations for consideration for traffic calming. Funding for this program will be distributed to projects on a competitive basis, based on several factors, including: speed of traffic, number of pedestrian crashes, and proximity to schools, recreation areas, and neighborhood business districts.

*Available upon request and in the Board office. Font of document is small.

Health and Safety Committee

Committee Workplan DRAFT Calendar Year 2022

OVERARCHING GOAL: To provide oversight of...

— We focus on personal well-being.

We will commit to putting the safety, physical, social, and emotional health of our students, staff, and partners at the forefront of everything we do.

(Strategic Plan items 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 2.A, 2.B, 2.C, 2.D, 2.E, 3A)

ORGANIZATION

The Committee will meet on the last Monday of each month at 4:00 PM prior to regularly scheduled Board meetings. The meetings may take place either in-person or virtually.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mary Wineberg, Chair

Carolyn Jones

Kareem Moncree-Moffett, Ph.D.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

The specific responsibilities of the Health and Safety Committee shall be as follows:

- A. Receive reports and studies about the issues affecting the whole child, and comment on these reports and students when appropriate.
 1. *Child abuse prevention;*
 2. *Bullying;*
 3. *Sexual abuse/sexual discrimination/sexual harassment prevention;*
 4. *Sexual orientation issues;*
 5. *Resource coordinators and Community Learning Centers;*
 6. *Student Conduct / Discipline*
 7. *Nutrition;*
 8. *Health;*
 9. *Mental Health;*
 10. *Pedestrian Safety;*
 11. *Safety in the Communities in which School Facilities reside*
 12. *In-school Safety / COVID-19 Pandemic*
- B. Develop an annual workplan to include the specific responsibilities as stated above to be submitted to the Board for approval.
- C. The committee Chair, Board, Board staff, and District administration will engage community members and organizations around responsibilities of the committee; Public Affairs representatives will be assigned to every committee meeting.

Strategic Plan – Goals and Strategies

- 2.1 Increase efforts to expand student access to primary, preventive, and mental health services at schools and CPS School-Based Health Centers.
- 2.2 Develop and deepen external collaborative relationships and internal positive school culture practices to provide a secure and supportive way to achieving a positive learning campus.
- 2.3 Provide safe school facilities that promote active and healthy lifestyle choices for students while developing students who are environmentally responsible.
- 3.1 Expand and leverage Community Learning Centers throughout the District by interfacing CPS schools with their neighborhoods, involving school community stakeholders willing to help remove barriers and create opportunities for learning, thereby deepening the inextricable link between our schools and our communities.

Strategic Plan – Strategic Outcomes

MEASURE 2A	Decrease the number of critical safety events.
MEASURE 2B	Increase number of Alternative Learning Center (ALC) sites from 26 to 56. — 2019-20 School Year: Add 10 additional sites from 26 to 36. — 2020-21 School Year: Add 10 additional sites from 36 to 46. — 2021-22 School Year: Add 10 additional sites from 46 to 56.
MEASURE 2C	Increase the number of school social workers and increase the amount of time that social workers devote to supporting the social and emotional needs of students. — 2019-20 School Year: Increase the number of social workers by 9, from 26 to 35. — 2020-21 School Year: Increase the number of social workers from 35 to 44. — 2021-22 School Year: Increase the number of social workers from 44 to 52.
MEASURE 2D	Improve social and emotional learning methodology (SEL) by increasing the number of schools with social-emotional learning quality improvement (QI) projects from 3 to 29 schools. — 2019-20 School Year: Increase number of SEL QI projects from 3 schools to 8 schools. — 2020-21 School Year: Increase number of SEL QI projects from 8 to 17 schools. — 2021-22 School Year: Increase number of SEL QI projects from 17 to 29 schools.
MEASURE 2E	Increase submissions of parental and guardian consent forms to provide needed services.
MEASURE 3A	Align schools with impactful partners by increasing the number of school resource coordinators from 44 in 2019 to 65 in 2022. Establish measurable performance expectations for CPS staff, lead agencies and resource coordinators that inspire collective action, instill collaboration in and among our neighborhoods, and institute accountability for engagement. — 2020-21 School Year: Increase the number of resource coordinators from 44 to 54. — 2021-22 School Year: Increase the number of resource coordinators from 54 to 65.

2022 CALENDAR

Month	Task	Presenter
January	Selection of Committee Chair	
2 nd Academic Qtr.	Bullying	
	Student Conduct / Discipline Data Report	Susan Bunte
	<i>COVID updates now at Board Meetings</i>	
February	Pedestrian Safety / SRO	Connie Solano
March	Nutrition	Jessica Shelly
3 rd Academic Qtr.	Student Conduct / Discipline Data Report Gun Safety	William Bell – Investigate a speaker
April	Child Abuse Prevention	Carrie Bungler
	Menstrual Health	Shauna Murphy
	Proposed Code of Conduct 2022-2023	Susan Bunte
May	Resource Coordinators	Shauna Murphy
	Community Learning Centers	Shauna Murphy
June	Safety in the Communities in which School Facilities Reside	William Bell
4 th Academic Qtr.	Student Conduct / Discipline Data Report	Susan Bunte
July	NO COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
August	Mental Health (Strategy 2.1)	Susan Bunte
September	Physical Health – Vision, Dental	Susan Bunte
October	Sexual Abuse Sexual Discrimination Sexual Harassment Prevention Dating Violence Sexual Orientation (LGBTQ+)	Liz Wolf
*1 st Quarter	Student Conduct / Discipline Data Report	Susan Bunte
November	In-School Safety/Lockdown/Lockout Drills)	Connie Solano/William Bell
	Athletic/Extra-Curriculars Physical/Mental Safety	Josh Hardin
December	Mental Health	Carrie Bungler