

MINUTES

MICHIGAN SCHOOL SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

December 21, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room
John A. Hannah Building, Fourth Floor
608 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan

Present: Dr. Daveda J. Colbert Dr. Jennifer Taiariol
Mr. Patrick R. Green Ms. Beth Nagel
Dr. Alyse F. Ley Lt. Col. Chris Kelenske
Dr. Nasuh Malas Ms. Aimee Alaniz
Mr. Jason Russell

Staff Present: Dr. Diane Golzynski Ms. Janice Dixon
Mr. Scott Hutchins Mr. Michael Leathead

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Colbert, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mr. Green moved, seconded by Dr. Malas, that the School Safety and Mental Health Commission approve the agenda and order of priority.

A roll call vote was taken.

**Colbert – Aye
Ley – Aye
Russell – Aye
Green – Aye
Malas – Aye
Taiariol – Aye**

The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Colbert asked that the Commission members introduce themselves and the sector they were nominated to represent. Each Commissioner present introduced themselves and stated which sector they were representing.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presentation by Dr. Katie Dockweiler, co-founder of Healthy Minds, Safe Schools. Dr. Dockweiler detailed Nevada's Active Recruitment, Training, and Educator Retention to serve our Youth (ARTERY) program. She spoke of the national ratio recommendations for psychologists, counselors, and social workers, which are 1:500, 1:250, and 1:250, respectively. States need an accountability plan which identifies needs as well as proposed career pathways – awareness should start at the elementary level with job fairs, etc. Commission members had comments and questions which were addressed by Dr. Dockweiler. Psychologist Assistants are a great resource to free up time of a licensed psychologist – paid interns are also an option. Collaboration must take place – districts can't hire staff if people aren't trained for the positions.

Discussion of Talent Pipeline. Revisiting the conversation begun at the November meeting as to whether the Commission wants to hire someone to assist with the Talent Pipeline. It was decided by the Commission to move this topic to January's agenda and make it a recurring agenda item each month.

Report on School Safety Commission legislative items by Trooper Kristina Lidak Droste, Michigan State Police. Trooper Droste updated the Commission on several items currently being watched by the School Safety Commission, including items on school bus safety, school bus operators, school building door barricades, and active shoot alarms.

Presentation on School Safety and Security by Jason Russell, School Safety and Mental Health Commission member. School assessments can be done in-house or by an outside company. Common findings include communication, doors/locks, training, planning elements missing, glass, School Resource Officers, cameras, and after hours/athletic events. Extensive conversation and discussion took place.

Update on Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) contract, Commission website, and other Commission business by Dr. Diane Golzynski, Director of the Office of Health and Nutrition Services at the Michigan Department of Education. Dr. Golzynski stated that the Request for Proposal for each of the three positions to be hired for the Commission through MPHI was approved on December 13, 2022. Postings and interviews can proceed. A webpage for the Commission has been created and includes meeting agenda, minutes, and names/emails of Commission members.

V. ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Ley moved, seconded by Ms. Nagel, that the School Safety and Mental Health Commission approve the draft minutes from the November 23, 2022, meeting.

A roll call vote was taken.

Colbert – Aye
Ley – Aye
Russell – Aye
Green – Aye
Malas – Aye
Taiariol – Aye
Nagel – Aye

The motion carried unanimously.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Dr. Colbert opened discussion on setting future meeting agendas, asking what topics or speakers the Commission would like to have at future meetings. Next month, Ms. Thomas would like to have an agenda item to discuss a Commission-funded position to assist with the Talent Pipeline Management work. Other topics for January or beyond included: mental health discussions, presentation by the Suicide Commission, and the United States Department of Education overview on school safety and mental health. The Commission would like to have a presentation by a student-led organization called the Hope Squad, either in person or virtually.

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one requested the opportunity to provide public comment.

XI. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the School Safety and Mental Health Commission is Wednesday, January 25 at 10:00 a.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Dixon
Executive Secretary
Office of Health and Nutrition Services