

Zillah School District Safety Committee Meeting Notes
Tuesday, May 22, 2018 – Zillah Middle School Library

Committee Members Present: Doug Burge, Robert Tucker, Steve Gay, Paula Dasso, Tracy Savage, Traci DeOchoa, Tim Faith, Cherillynn Damron, Jessie Lustre, Stuart Simmons, Leroy Groeneweg, Kerri Greene, Leah Glasenapp, Jeff Glasenapp, Evan Sander

Meeting began 6:02 p.m.

Welcome/Introductions – Doug Burge

Mr. Burge went over meeting protocols and norms. Talked about participation by all, the sharing of ideas, asking questions, drawing others out, listening to understand, disagree without being disagreeable, speaking honestly, and respecting each other's thinking

- talked about being part of this committee, a committee group not a public forum, and how this group would recommend ideas to the board of directors

All members then took a safety survey put together by Mr. Burge and handed back to him when finished

Mr. Burge went over his goals for the meeting-what he thought this group could accomplish

- have open discussion, this is a group that could impact practice in the district

- be open, we might agree to disagree

- continue to evaluate what we are doing in the ZSD and continue to support safety in our schools

- also gave some history of safety and what has transpired in the school district since the tragedy at Sandy Hook in 2013

Mr. Burge discussed how we got to this point with the committee

- there were concerns from parents that started with school communication

- a group went to the school board and were concerned with school safety, etc.

- the ZSD had a school safety forum on April 24, 2018/a committee was formed for further study and here we are today

The group reviewed handouts that were provided by Mr. Burge on:

- ZSD Changes/Upgrades since 2013

- Parent Concerns that were brought to school district in letters at Board Meetings

- there was some discussion about budget for safety, talked about capital levy dollars and history, school funding, etc.

- discussed how apportionment factors in/school numbers (numbers of students)

- grants were also discussed/do we have a grant writer?

Committee members took part in a small group activity where they were asked to list the things the district does well with safety and security, and things that the district can improve in

- each group shared their results to the large group/this information was shared, some items were duplicated:

Things the district does well

School Resource Officer/Law Enforcement Support
Drills w/students and staff/practice
School Messenger System
Radios and Cameras
Parent Meetings/Input
Structures/school flow, etc.
Technology procedures/monitoring
Bus Assistants

Things that can be improved on

Check-in procedures/visitors
Accessibility to buildings/entry access
Communication/information to parents
Protocols on Website
Mental Health Services
Reporting System/Threats
Access at events
Educating Parents/Resources for parents
Keypad/Key control/access

Had some open discussion about:

- involvement in community, in meetings, etc.
- Public Records Requests
- School discipline and what should be reported to parents and how things are reported
- key control, access into buildings

Mr. Burge asked for next steps from the group

- budget, what do we have to put toward improvements
- Mr. Tucker mentioned a possible grant for mental health support for schools
- talked about counseling in the district
- discussed entry ways into buildings
- what can we do now that doesn't cost money (protocols, etc.)

Will look at:

- entry doors/building specific scenarios/access
- grant opportunities for funds
- discussing information from this meeting with the board
- September meeting with this group

Mr. Burge shared results from survey from the beginning of the meeting quickly to reinforce where this group believes we are at currently, these were the results:

ZSD Safety Committee Survey

1. How satisfied are you with the safety policy at your child's school?
8-Satisfied, 3-Don't Know, 2-Dissatisfied, 1-Very Satisfied
2. How satisfied are you with the emergency response plan at your child's school?
10-Satisfied, 2-Don't Know, 1-Very Satisfied, 1-Dissatisfied
3. How satisfied are you with the level of control the school maintains on all entrances and exits?
5-Satisfied, 5-Dissatisfied, 2-Very Dissatisfied, 2-Don't Know

4. How satisfied are you with the school's visitor policy?
5-Satisfied, 4-Dissatisfied, 4-Don't Know, 1-Very Satisfied
5. How satisfied are you with the level of supervision inside the school?
10-Satisfied, 2-Dissatisfied, 1-Very Satisfied, 1-Don't Know
6. How satisfied are you with the level of supervision outside, on the school grounds?
9-Satisfied, 3-Don't Know, 1-Very Satisfied
7. School personnel maintain open communication with parents regarding safety at the school.
7-Agree, 3-Undecided, 2-Strongly Disagree, 1-Strongly Agree, 1-Disagree
8. The school takes all threats and rumors of violence seriously and investigates appropriately.
5-Strongly Agree, 5-Undecided, 2-Agree, 1-Disagree, 1-Strongly Disagree
9. Do you feel the level of safety awareness at your school is excellent, good, fair, or poor?
7-Good, 6-Excellent, 2-Fair, 2-Poor
10. Do you feel your school's level of preparedness for an emergency is excellent, good, fair, or poor?
5-Excellent, 5-Good, 4-Fair
11. Overall, do you feel your child's school is very safe, somewhat safe, not too safe or not at all safe?
10-Somewhat Safe, 5-Very Safe

Next Meeting will be in September of 2018

Mr. Burge will send out meeting notes to committee members soon

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.