

School Safety Committee Meeting Minutes January 17, 2019

Present:

Charles Gobron, Central Office
Michelle Resendes, Director of Business
Jerry Culbert, Community Representative
Sarah Donnelly, Parent Representative
Dan Costello, Principal Fowler
Mary Beth Shea, Principal, Green Meadow School
Trista Manchuso, School Resource Officer
Tim Goulding, Assistant Facilities Manager
Deb Holly, Teacher, Green Meadow
Jenny Falkoff, School Psychologist
Stephen Woicik, Director of Technology

1. Welcome and Introductions

Charles Gobron welcomed everyone to the meeting at 3:20 p.m. Introductions were made.

2. Debrief of the Green Meadow Evacuation on Friday, January 11th.

On the whole, the evacuation to Fowler School went well. There were some communication glitches which we want to correct in the future. Not every teacher was able to hear the instructions. Communications between Fowler and Green Meadow via walkie talkie was problematic. Stephen Woicik mentioned that a Crisis Go type system presents problems because it's unrealistic to expect that every teacher will have a personal wi-fi device on them when there is an emergency. After some discussion, it was decided that a subcommittee will meet before our February14th meeting to begin developing written protocols to use in an emergency situation. Mary Beth Shea, Dan Costello, Trista Manchuso, and Jerry Culbert will be part of this subcommittee.

3. Feedback -- Presentation by Active Shooter and Mutual Link Representatives

Feedback on last month's active shooter and Mutual Link presentation was excellent. Committee members emphasized how important this initiative would be. One serious concern is the price which could be as high as \$500,000. We have been told that grants are available to offset this exorbitant cost. After much discussion it was agreed that Michelle Resendes would investigate how Minuteman Regional is progressing in their efforts to afford and to obtain this service. In addition, Charles Gobron will meet with

Dr. Gerardi to learn his present thinking on this initiative. Dr. Gerardi has sent an email to Police Chief Dubois, Trista Manchuso, and Active Shooters Detection Systems to schedule a meeting on this item.

4. Alice Training Update.

Michelle Resendes, Jerry Culbert, Tim Goulding, Mary Beth Shea, and Dan Costello were very pleased with the two-day training they undertook on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. The training has been updated with a greater emphasis on hands-on activities. The group produced a video with a scenario in a movie theater. Unfortunately, some technical difficulties prevented us from viewing the entire video so we postponed the showing until our February 14th meeting. It will be on next month's agenda.

5. Staff Parking Issues at Green Meadow

Tim Goulding reported that painting work in the Green Meadow parking lot will be done this spring. New spots will be added. In addition, arrows will be painted to indicate clearly the expected flow of traffic. A safety issue regarding metal chains for the Green Meadow circle was discussed.

6. Safety Plans for Students with Special Needs

Michelle Resendes reported that ALICE has added new suggestions for procedures students can follow when their individual disabilities prevent them from fully participating in drills. This has been an issue that has not be completely resolved. Charles Gobron and Michelle Resendes will report on progress made in this area at our next meeting.

7. Walk and Roll to School on February 6th

Students from Green Meadow and Fowler are invited to participate in a state sponsored activity called Winter Walk and Roll to School. After much discussion and some negotiating, it has been decided to use the Assabet Valley Boys and Girls Club as the drop off point for the walk. This is entirely voluntary. The distance to Fowler is approximately half a mile and the distance to Green Meadow is approximately .7 of a mile. A planning meeting will be held on next Thursday, January 24th, at 3:15 in the Central Office. Several Wellness Committee members will be in attendance and interested School Safety Committee members are welcome to attend.

8. Additional Information

- a) Charles Gobron and Bob Gerardi will meet with John Ogden and report on the status of the student created ALICE video at our next meeting
- b) Trista Manchuso will be meeting with a representative of the NEMLAC STARS to get further information about safety materials which might be available to us.
- c) Dr. Gerardi will update Safety Committee members next month about the progress on an initiative to lock buildings after hours.
- d) A subcommittee consisting of Sarah Donnelly, Charles Gobron, Jerry Culbert, Dr. Gerardi and Susan Arcelay will meet before the next meeting to discuss our progress on the emergency response initiatives the School Safety Committee has discussed over the past two years.