

Nevada School Safety Committee

Submitted to Governor Steve Sisolak



September 14, 2022

Steve Sisolak
Governor

Jhone M. Ebert
Superintendent of
Public Instruction



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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Steve Sisolak, Governor
Jhone M. Ebert, Superintendent of Public Instruction

FROM: Jason Trevino, Chief of Police, Washoe County School District

DATE: August 17, 2022

SUBJECT: Nevada School Safety Committee, Recommendation Report

Introduction Letter

The Statewide School Safety Committee is comprised of 17 individuals appointed by Governor Sisolak. The appointees meet the requirements as set forth in Nevada Revised Statute 388.1324. The individual members represent areas of diverse interests and expertise. The safety committee first met in December 2020 and has met monthly since.

- a) Statewide School Safety Committee will provide an avenue for student voice in matters related to their safety and well-being across the state of Nevada.
- b) Statewide School Safety Committee will explore the impact of social media on school safety and student well-being.
- c) Statewide School Safety Committee may also discuss or make any recommendation reasonably related to the matters addressed in executive order 2018-5, which created this committee.

The School Safety Committee reviewed previous committee recommendations and determined what was able to be implemented from those recommendations as the basis for the start of their discussions. The committee heard many presentations and received input from students, school district personnel, community partners, parents, and professionals from across the state, and reviewed both physical safety, as well as mental health safety.

While the districts throughout the state vary widely in size, the committee found that concerns among them were quite similar. Concerns varied in scope and frequency but were widely the same at the core.

The committee submitted a report to the Governor with a list of recommendations that committee members collectively decided to put forward. These recommendations were based on the presentations and input they had received, and the requirements set forth in Nevada Revised Statute 388.1324.

School safety is an ever-changing landscape and will require future discussions on emerging best practices to address current concerns throughout the state. It was our honor to serve on this safety committee and we look forward to making our schools safer across the state.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Trevino
School Safety Committee Chairman

Member Roster Biographies



Chair Jason Trevino has been involved in local law enforcement since 1995, starting his career as a Court Security Officer for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office. Jason worked as a Deputy Sheriff before moving to the Washoe County School District Police Department in 2005. Jason worked through the ranks and was promoted to Chief of Police in October of 2015.



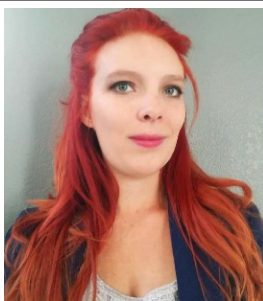
Vice-Chair Anthony "Tony" York is the Director of School Safety for Academica Nevada. Prior to joining Academica, he worked 28+ years with the CCSD Police Department before honorably retiring as a Police Captain in 2018. He has extensive experience in emergency management, school safety, special events, threat assessment and crisis response. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force, holds a master's degree in public administration, a bachelor's in criminal justice, and an associate in industrial security. He volunteers with a variety of the community organizations, committees, and projects.



Member Gregory Cole is in his fifth year as Principal of Mojave High School in Las Vegas, Nevada. He arrived at Mojave after three years as principal at Bailey Middle School. With 27 years in education, Mr. Cole started his career in a small rural school teaching 6th grade math before moving to Las Vegas as a special education teacher at Variety Special School. Mr. Cole has a bachelor's degree in education from Northwest Missouri State University, a Master of Education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and an educational specialist degree from Nova Southeastern University.



Member Kasina Douglass-Boone is a dedicated mother of six children, wife, former Nevada legislator, and community advocate who is focused on family and civic engagement by strategizing and developing programs to bridge the gap between home, school life and the community for adolescents. On July 8, 2020, Kasina was sworn in as the Assemblywoman for District 17 where she finished out the term of her mentor Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson. Kasina is currently a key leader at Ty's Place Safe Space for Teens, in memory of her loving mentor. Kasina assists each year in the community with back-to-school fairs, Teen Town Halls, and social justice events.



Member Megan Hall is a State Planner with the Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Holding a Bachelor of Science in public policy and public service with a concentration in emergency management and Homeland Security from Arizona State University, Megan is dedicated to keeping schools safe and for the improvement of policies and processes that protect pupils and staff across Nevada.



Member Laura Hutchinson is an Education Programs Professional for the Nevada Department of Education coordinating the SafeVoice/Handle with Care programs and school safety for the State of Nevada. Prior to joining NDE, she worked at Washoe County School District for more than 20 years. Laura has a master's degree in counseling and educational psychology and holds a Nevada license in both school counseling and school psychology. She is also nationally certified as a school counselor.



Dr. David Jensen is currently the Superintendent of Schools for Humboldt County School District in Winnemucca, Nevada. Prior to his current position as Superintendent, Dr. Jensen served as Assistant Superintendent, Associate Superintendent for Business and Support Services (CFO), Director of Federal Programs and as a school psychologist. During his tenure, he has served as President of the Nevada Association of School Superintendents (NASS) as well as a representative on the State Board of Education for three years.

Picture not available

Monica McJoy is the parent representative for the committee from Las Vegas, Nevada. She has been a member of the committee since June 2021.



Chief Ryan Miller is a 23-year veteran of the Nevada Department of Public Safety. During his tenure, he has moved through the ranks and served in a variety of assignments within the Division of Parole & Probation, Office of Professional Responsibility (internal affairs), and the Investigation (Detective) Division. In his current position, as the Administrator of the Investigation Division, Chief Miller is responsible for operational and administrative functions including major crimes, narcotics enforcement, Homeland Security, and the SafeVoice support center. He has a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice from the University of Nevada, Reno.



Leon Ravin, M.D. is the Statewide Psychiatric Medical Director for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health and a Clinical Professor at the Department of Psychiatry, UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine. Dr. Ravin serves on the executive committee of the Medical Directors Council of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, on the LAI work group for SMI Adviser, and on the conference committee for the National Psychopharmacology Update. Dr. Ravin's interests include delivery of psychiatric care, mental health laws, and medical ethics.



Member Joseph Roberts is the Director for the CCSD Crisis Response Team which is a centralized department that offers strategic services and supports to families and school-based intervention teams to help meet the mental health needs of students. This involves working with the Juvenile Assessment Center (the Harbor), participating as a member of the Child Death Review Panel, the Nevada Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force, as well as collaborating with the CCSD Emergency Management Team. Having over 20 plus years of experience in public education, Mr. Roberts has been a teacher, department chair, program coordinator, school psychologist and school administrator.



Member Albert Ruiz is a retired fire fighter from Texas and relocated to Nevada 4 years ago. Hobbies include golf and fishing but, "I'm not very good at either". Father to four children and four grandchildren.



Member Shawina L. Tims BS, MS is a Title 1 Instructional Assistant III at Gwendolyn Woolley Elementary School in the Clark County School District. Member Tims believes her life mirrors compassion, respect, empathy, empowerment, and dignity to all she meets.

Recommendation #1: Make a significant investment in school-based mental health professionals and services. Prioritize staff and student safety by assisting local education agencies (LEA) in meeting recommended ratios for school based behavioral health to improve the capacity of schools to intervene early and prevent violence. This commitment includes:

- 1.1 The recommendation that student and staff safety be prioritized and protected with state funding and designated outside of the pupil centered funding plan in the 2023 legislative session by allocating state funds to improve school-based behavioral health ratios in our schools.
- 1.2 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will assist local education agencies (LEA) in their plans to reach the non-binding staff support ratios by working through barriers to billing Medicaid, assist with additional federal funding when available, and work on workforce development issues.
- 1.3 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will ensure each local education agency has access to tele-health services if requested.
- 1.4 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and local education agencies (LEA) will collaborate to plan how to increase capacity to respond and share resources to address behavioral health crisis in the school staff and student population.
- 1.5 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) to co-create with partners in mental/behavioral health a protocol/best practice to guide the response to crisis including school, law enforcement, and behavioral health providers like the Mobile Crisis Response Team.
 - 1.5.1 Promote and fund shared regional crisis response trainings and between schools, law enforcement, and behavioral health providers like the Mobile Crisis Response Team.
 - 1.5.2 Promote safe storage of firearms.
- 1.6 Ensure sustainability of SafeVoice and ability of first responders to provide support to students, including:
 - 1.6.1 The Nevada Department of Public Safety (DPS) has the funding needed to run and implement SafeVoice, as described in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388, inclusive of overtime.
 - 1.6.2 Include provisions to ensure the Nevada Department of Public Safety (DPS) has 24-hour access to student information in the event of a SafeVoice tip revealing a health or safety emergency as defined by Certified Federal Regulation (CFR) 99.31(a)(10) and necessary privacy protections are in place to protect student data.

Recommendation #2: Make a commitment to provide funding to ensure safe learning environments.

This commitment includes:

- 2.1 Ensure the availability of funds for school resource officers and school police personnel.
- 2.2 Each school district shall provide personnel with access to student information available 24 hour per day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to assist local law enforcement with student life safety or school safety response.
- 2.3 Establish a categorical fund dedicated to enhancing school building safety. This funding should be distributed based upon on school facility/site assessments that are aligned with state standards for such assessments.
- 2.4 Support all schools to supplement and refine school safety training programs.
- 2.5 Require training and professional development for administrators and staff on matters pertaining to threat assessment and other behavioral health safety response.

Recommendation #3: Review and promote quality improvement and management of school safety planning and implementation. This would include ensuring all schools have what they need to update, implement, and practice their emergency operations plans (EOP). Chapter 388/394 of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) provides the establishment of school safety teams, committees to develop EOPs, and the content/requirements of emergency operations plans (EOP).

- 3.1 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) is currently required to develop a model plan to incorporate the following:
 - a) Model Threat Assessment for individual students [NRS 388.253(2)]
 - b) Behavioral Health Disaster Response element [NRS 388.253(2)(b)]
 - c) Annual exercises of plans including external response agencies.*These models should be reviewed by the field every other year to ensure the models capture evidence-based improvements.*
- 3.2 The Statewide School Safety Committee will work with local education agencies (LEA) to determine if there are any gaps in funding for implementing the current school safety planning process, practicing the school safety plans, and implementing the school safety plan. These gaps will be highlighted in 2023 recommendations. The Committee will also ensure that expectations and requirements for emergency operations plans (EOP) are clear for school and emergency operations plan development committees.
- 3.3 Promote and create systems that improve communication between schools, law enforcement, and behavioral health professionals to respond to all hazards and school safety concerns.
- 3.4 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE), the Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM), the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and other applicable agencies will form a confidential interdisciplinary committee that will

read and give feedback to local education agencies (LEA) on their emergency operations plans (EOP) to ensure plans contain state and federal requirements of an all-hazard approach. Based upon review of the plans, these agencies will tailor training to meet the needs of schools.

3.5 All schools will have access to a well-defined multi-disciplinary behavioral health threat (harm to self and others) assessment team, whether it's at the school, district, or regional access level. The threat assessment team will be charged with evaluating school safety threats to address any potential safety concerns as they arise, as well as provide any needed supports or services for identified students.

3.6 Reframe and improve school safety Nevada Revised Statutes and policies to include the following:

3.6.1 Bullying and adult to child complaints and appeals

3.6.2 Add private schools to Good Samaritan Laws

Recommendation #4: Provide legislation and budgetary authority that would grant local education agencies (LEA) funds to ensure students and school staff have prevention skills needed to help all students be successful and safe in school. This would accomplish the following:

4.1 Proactively integrate Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into the fabric of all Nevada schools to help educators, parents, families, and students remain motivated to develop skills to navigate and succeed within their 21st Century learning communities and to serve as responsible, contributing, and safe members of society.

4.2 Sustain and scale up multi-tiered system of supports Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for all willing schools to be able to implement with fidelity integrated screenings, interventions, and progress monitoring.

4.3 Request funds to be made available as a grant to schools to support curriculum, training and program needs as they implement Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into schools across the state. This will provide the flexibility and line-item accountability needed to track the progress of this program over time.

4.4 Suicide prevention training should be mandatory for all school staff members.

Recommendation #5: Support schools and local education agencies (LEA) with strategies that eliminate disproportionality of school discipline and reduce the number of students getting suspended and or expelled. Removing a student from school does not prevent risk.

5.1 Support and fund schools capacity to implement and ensure access to restorative practices as a preventative measure.

5.2 Create a workgroup to review bullying, restorative practices and discipline and make recommendations for improvement. (Acknowledge the difficulties of the past year and should be given the proper amount of time to develop to move forward on benefits for students

understanding the context of restorative practices. Also acknowledge that it takes 3 to 5 years for implementation)

Recommendation #6: Identify interventions to mitigate negative impacts and promote positive impacts of social media.

6.1 Create a youth panel and other avenues for youth to support the Statewide School Safety Committee in identifying these interventions.

6.2 Ensure cyber-bullying awareness is integrated into all the bullying school trainings, resources, and school response protocols.

6.3 The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) should include specific training for interventions that address cyber-bullying and the negative impacts of social media on school safety.

List of Appendices

- A. Governor Sandoval's Executive Order 2018-5
- B. Presenters Providing Testimony and Links to Materials
- C. 2018 Final Report to the Governor Sandoval



EXECUTIVE ORDER 2018-5

ORDER ESTABLISHING THE STATEWIDE SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the safety of Nevada's schoolchildren is a matter of unparalleled importance and significance;

WHEREAS, school superintendents, principals, teachers, and state and district officials should be commended on the advances which make our schools safer, and the diligence and dedication with which they have approached this issue;

WHEREAS, despite these advances, the recent tragedy in Parkland, Florida demonstrates the real danger posed by an active shooter to students, teachers and staff on a school campus;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the State of Nevada devote its resources toward making schools as safe as possible, so that students are free to learn, grow, and excel, becoming the citizens and leaders of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides that, "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada and the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. The Statewide School Safety Task Force (Task Force) is hereby established.
2. The Governor shall appoint all members of the Task Force. In selecting members, the Governor may consider the following:
 - a. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction
 - b. A member of the Nevada State Senate
 - c. A member of the Nevada State Assembly
 - d. The superintendent of the Clark County School District or his or her designee
 - e. The superintendent of the Washoe County School District or his or her designee
 - f. A superintendent from a rural school district
 - g. An elementary or secondary school principal
 - h. A representative from the Charter School Association of Nevada or its designee
 - i. A school board trustee
 - j. An elementary or secondary school teacher
 - k. A school behavioral health care professional or social worker
 - l. A representative from the Department of Health and Human Services
 - m. A school resource officer or a member of law enforcement
 - n. A parent of a child enrolled in grades K-12
 - o. An expert or professional in the field of juvenile justice
 - p. The student representative to the State Board of Education
 - q. Anyone else deemed necessary by the Governor

3. The Governor shall designate the Chair of the committee.
4. The mission of the Task Force shall be to identify and recommend those school safety practices best suited for implementation in some or all of Nevada's schools, recognizing that not all schools are similarly situated.
5. The Task Force shall deliver an initial report of its activities to the Governor on or before August 1, 2018. This report shall include:
 - a. A review of current law related to school safety; and
 - b. A summary of any recommended actions that can immediately be taken to improve school safety, including:
 - i. Any bill draft or budgetary requests necessary to enact these recommendations;
 - ii. A draft of any Executive Order necessary to enact these recommendations;
 - iii. Any proposed model policy for adoption by individual school districts;
 - iv. Any other information deemed necessary by the Task Force.
6. The Task Force shall deliver a final report of its activities to the Governor on or before November 30, 2018. This report shall include:
 - a. A summary of not more than ten long term recommendations to improve safety in Nevada's schools, identifying how best to enact these recommendations;
 - b. Any proposed legislation necessary to enact these recommendations;
 - c. Any budgetary requests necessary to enact these recommendations;
 - d. A draft of any Executive Order necessary to enact these recommendations;
 - e. Any proposed model policy for adoption by individual school districts; and
 - f. Any other information deemed necessary by the Task Force.
7. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for their service, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
8. The Task Force shall meet at the discretion and direction of its Chair.
9. The Nevada Department of Education shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.
10. The Chair will have the ability to issue guidelines for the operation of the Task Force and amend those guidelines as needed. The Chair may also form and appoint working groups or subcommittees as deemed necessary.
11. Any meetings conducted by the Task Force or any subcommittee(s) thereof shall be subject to the Open Meeting Law, as codified in NRS Chapter 241.
12. All records documenting the Task Force's activities shall be retained and transferred to the State Archives for permanent retention in accordance with the State record retention policy.
13. The Task Force shall cease to exist on December 31, 2018, unless authorized by further Executive Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 19th day of March, in the year two thousand eighteen.




Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:

Secretary of State

Deputy Secretary of State

APPENDIX B: Presenters Providing Testimony and Links to Materials

- *CCSD Crisis Response Team*, presented by Member Joseph Roberts, Clark County School District, 01-19-2022
[CCSD-Crisis Response Team](#)
- *(Cyber Safety and Social Media) Parenting in the Digital World*, presented by Clayton Cranford, Cyber Safety Cop and Total Safety Solutions, LLC, 07-20-2022
[Cyber Safety & Social Media](#)
- *Good Samaritan Law and School Emergency Response*, presented by Roy Anderson, Washoe County School District, 03-16-2022
[Good Samaritan Law-School Emergency Response](#)
- *Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)*, presented by Kaci Fleetwood, University of Nevada Reno, College of Education, 11-17-2021
[Multi-Tiered Systems of Support - MTSS](#)
- *Nevada School Climate Survey*, presented by Amber Reid, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, 01-19-2022
[NV-School Climate Survey](#)
- *Nevada-988 Crisis Response System*, presented by Kelly Marschall, Social Entrepreneur, Inc., 04-20-2022
[Nevada-988 Crisis Response](#)
- *School-Based Guide for Trauma Recovery*, presented by Candace Bortolin, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, 07-20-2021
[School-Based Trauma Recovery](#)
- *Safe Storage of Firearms*, presented by Misty Vaughan Allen, Office for Suicide Prevention, 03-16-2022
[Safe Storage of Firearms](#)
- *School-Based Behavioral Services Medicaid Reimbursement*, presented by Tonya Hernandez, Division of Child and Family Services, 04-20-2022
[SBBS-Medicaid Reimbursement](#)
- *School Safety through Social-Emotional Wellbeing (SEL)*, presented by Michelle Trujillo and Tracy Fisher, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning, 12-15-2021
[Social Emotional Learning-SEL](#)

APPENDIX C: **2018 Final Report to Governor Sandoval**

- [NCSST- Final Report 2018](#)