

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RESPONSE TO POWER BASED VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS

DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2023

TIME: 2:32PM

Summary of Minutes of the Regular Meeting

In Attendance VIA Videoconference:

Committee Members

Chair Evans
Vice-Chair Comis
Member Galli
Member Kennedy
Member Silva
Member S. Comis

Department Staff

Director Higley – Department of Education, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

1. Call to Order and roll call

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 2:33pm. Quorum was established.

2. Public Comment #1

No public Comment was submitted to record.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes Review

Motion to approve as written by Member Silva, Seconded by Vice-Chair Comis Passed unanimously.

4. Power Based Violence Experience and Procedures

Personal events were shared by student survivors and their families through live discussion and through written correspondence. Events and the response by the administration were shared as well as time for committee members to follow up and ask questions. During the first share It was noted that the school did not take any action until a student walk out and website was created. The administration brought in a police and had the parents call over speaker phone. notes they would have preferred to have had action taken immediately. Follow up questions were made by members. It was noted that by the school's lack of actions did cause additional trauma. No additional support was provided by the school. Chair Evans shared written responses and experiences from anonymous individuals. It was noted that one individual received support after doing a google search. Student survivor notes they wish that there was more training available for staff. Parents would also like to more district policies and procedures for all steps for long term responses. Discussion from members note that having confidentiality and access to an advocate within the schools or community would be beneficial. It was noted on record that no one blames any administrator or teacher and that it is not an attack on the school district, but this is a highlight of lived experiences. It recommended that to help with consistent policies and procedures that are mutually beneficial to bring in administrators that can be a part of the conversation.

5. General Statistics, Acts, and Information Surrounding Power-Based Violence

Chair Evans shared and educated the committee on power-based violence. Committee discussed and used information to determine possible timeline to move forward with future meetings. Key information includes Nevada ranks 2nd for domestic violence and around 5th for sexual violence. Future agenda topics included bringing in administrators to share their perspectives, making an emergency operations template and poster. Mandated reporting and police involvement, bill draft requests and a discussion on Memorandum of Understanding.

6. Updates on Open Seats and Purpose of Committee

Members were updated with a brief discussion on open seats and recruitment efforts.

7. Future Agenda Items

Committee members discussed possible future agenda items. Future agenda items included those mentioned in previous items from this agenda. Future agenda topics included bringing in administrators to share their perspectives, making an emergency operations template and poster. Mandated reporting and police involvement, bill draft requests and a discussion on Memorandum of Understanding.

8. Public Comment #2

No public comment was submitted into record.

Adjournment at 4:02 pm.