



Special Education Committee Meeting
10/4/2018 at 6pm
UES LGI

Board Chair—Dana Schwartz

Administrative Liaison—Alyssa Marton

Attendance—Please see the accompanying committee attendance sheet.

Dana Schwartz called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

The minutes of the (insert date) meeting were approved.

Old Business

- SEC Training Topics:

Alyssa: We had 11 responses to the survey that we sent out again, and we also surveyed the teachers to find out if they had any thoughts or topics. Here is what we came up with:

ALICE
Technology
Assistive technology
Medical Assistance
Exiting from an IEP
Preparing for the meeting
Related Services
Academic strategies
EF strategies
County/ID services
Extracurricular support
Driver's Ed

Question: Can we ask instructional assistants for input re survey?

Alyssa: Yes, I'll reach out to them.

New Business

- Technology overview – Amanda Benolken

Alyssa: To help you stay informed about what's going on in schools, Amanda will show you how to navigate our website and list serves.

Amanda Benolken: We have a new position called a digital integration specialist, and we're working on creating a flyer of NH-S Connected Family for each school, right now we just have one for MS. For questions, one place I'd recommend is the student handbook.

- Our school website is going to be updated to a new design soon.
- 98% of questions can be answered in the handbook.
- Handy calendar on the website. You can look at it or subscribe on your phone. Info about clubs and activities. Link to each HAC.
- I recommend every parent join LISTServ for their child's building.
- The LES, UES, MS have weekly blasts.

Q: How come the HS doesn't have one?

Erik Pedersen: We do have a HS Happenings LISTserv, on Wednesdays.

- HAC in the MS and HS is where all official grades are posted.
- Twitter is our social media outlet that we use. If you're not sure who to follow, look for Alyssa or I on Twitter to see who we follow. A window into the classrooms.

Q: Some of us are not on Twitter. Can you open a FB account that publishes the Twitter account?

Amanda: I'll bring that feedback to the principals and the new superintendent.

- MS uses Google Classroom Guardian Emails. This is a trend in education right now. We are using Canvas for HS. In MS it's Google Classroom. It's a daily or weekly email that offers announcements and assignments.
- Now I'll focus on the website. Go into your school building. The quick links are the most relevant links for you. On the side are the Upcoming Events. On the bottom, you can view Calendar. It will show you how to put the calendar on your phone. This is building and district wide calendar.
- If you're unsure how your teacher is communicating homework, my advice is to reach out to them. You can reach out to me, too, if you have broader questions, for example, Canvas app. For MS, your children should be going to Google Classroom. Parents have limited access, but you can log in with your child.

Amanda: Any other general q's?

Q: Who are the webmasters at the HS?

HS: Mr. Cook and Mrs. Shwander (librarian)

MS: Mr. Smith

LES and UES: Mrs. DiTullio and Mr. Marrone

- ALICE – Erik Pedersen

Intro from Mr. Pederson: I'm the assistant principal at the MS and HS levels also the athletic director. I wanted to go through with you a big change in regards to school safety. We wanted to explore the most pro active way to keep our students and teachers and staff safe in a crisis. Dr. Malone, myself, and Mr. Loving decided that ALICE program would be the best option for our school district.

- The three of us were trained by active and retired military personnel. This program can be modified K-12. 4600 schools throughout the country use this program. Many different stakeholders participated in the training. What is the best way for us to respond to a crisis.
- Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate.
- This is an options based program. This gives teachers and students options to make a decision. If someone comes into the building to cause harm, they could come through any door. We're making sure every door on our campus is safe. We have cameras being installed at every level. Door swipes buzz us in. That way we can track who is entering and leaving our buildings. Every single exterior door is locked throughout the day.
- This is the Powerpoint that our students saw. What does lockdown mean? Lockdown Plus was our first drill, Sept 24th, a notice was sent out by Dr. Malone. We don't want to make all this public because of confidentiality.
- A – Alert All phones in the district can make an all-call, a campus wide call. We want them to alert what's going on. We've trained teachers, staff, and students on the best way to barricade a door. Zero cost ways to do that, for example, with simple chairs. We have 2 more audits coming this month.
- L – Lockdown Plus Secure door, room to room, barricade, don't huddle, spread out. The LES drill is happening Oct 19. They had a fire drill first. Tomorrow we have an assembly at the LES, a light conversation about what to expect.
- I – Inform Whoever is willing and can call 911. The more info we can get out the better. We have new signage on campus. Hallways have changed, room numbers have changed, so this way police know where they need to go.

- C – Counter Counter is in no way telling people to go after or physically intervene. It can mean running in a zig zag motion. Keep something in your hand. Countering for us is Lockdown Plus.
- E – Evacuate This is the best option if you can. Getting out of the building and away from the crisis is ideal. We've gone over how to properly break a window. But again that's not always the answer.
- We've talked about how to best help our Special Ed students.

Q: I'm concerned about subs.

Erik: The subs get a folder with all the information, including about ALICE. For our building subs we're exploring the option of training them.

Alyssa: In terms of IA, Erik and I met with them yesterday, HS folks first, to have that conversation about how we can communicate your child's info to a substitute. Each child is different, it's an options based program. We're not going to designate staff. If we need a plan we will make one for each student.

Q: Yes, not a person but a plan.

Alyssa: We're in the process of developing it. After the initial ALICE lock down we followed up about any concerns. We're looking at options for all students, for example, those who are limited in their walking. We do have the evacuation chairs in the hallways. We do a training every year. We've identified students that the IA's had concerns about. I then followed up with the case managers so we can meet and develop a plan. It will become part of the IA's subplan. We have this covered. Once it happens at the LES, we'll follow up with them. We are making sure your children are safe and accounted for. Evacuation is not always the best option. Their big concern was whether you'd be upset if the kids got hurt (fell, bumped, etc) while evacuating and we told them you'd be fine as long as you could get them out.

One of the things we discussed last year, is that we have children who have behavioral needs, some kids who see a police officer they might not know how to respond... and who might think their behavior is aggressive in nature. We've had officers come in to meet our kids.

Q: Can we rotate them? And also the fire department?

Erik: I can report that we see a different face in the building weekly. At first the kids wondered if something is wrong, and now they don't even notice them. They have access to our buildings and our cameras. The IU is using us as an audit to build a model of what the county should also be doing. We also have a Safe Schools committee, from teachers to fire and police. Those are some of the moving parts we don't give information about. But those things are happening regularly. This has been going on for quite some time. But some things have to be kept quiet, but we can communicate that every stakeholder has been part of the process. The police and fire chief come

and visit our campuses. Their presence was felt the other week and it was fantastic. They've been a partner with us throughout this process.

Q: I think it's important the subs who get the ALICE info that we're sure they've reviewed it before the day has begun.

Erik: Yes, absolutely. I'm taking this info back with me. We meet weekly to give updates and feedback.

Q: Afterwards, we can ask how our individual child has done during a drill.

Q: What about Specials teachers, some who our children may listen to better than others?

Alyssa: We'll keep you up to date in case other children need more of a plan. Our Special teachers already get the IEPs and they're brought up to date about their needs and accommodations. As we develop individual plans, every teacher will be prepared.

Q: Is there going to be a final drill for this? As in unknown to students?

Erik: No. We don't want to scare anybody. We're not going to simulate an intrusion. Our next drill will be a campus evacuation. A controlled drill. We expect the drill to take under an hour. We want to direct parents to that rendezvous point to safely meet the children. I'll let Dr. Malone release that. There's a lot of moving parts. We would never just do a surprise drill. In the spring, we might alert people that we're doing a drill, and simulate a drill scenario. But it will not be a surprise. These are going to become regular drills. This is K-12 and higher education movement. Email me with any questions, I can meet with case managers. Myself and David Teasdale are spear heading this safety initiative. We want to work with you.

Q: What's the difference between lock down and lock down plus?

Erik: Clarification: Shelter in place drill, or hold drill, means there is something happening outside/downtown, you are safe in the building right now.

Lock down plus is only ALICE.

Q: In this ALICE scenario, is it taken under consideration that some people might be familiar with the buildings? As in a student situation, for example.

Erik: We have taken that into consideration. We've trained students and staff what would happen if a kid in your class does something. The teachers have trained for this. We know mental health is a major component in this and we are responding to this for all students.

For every ALICE drill you do, you're waived 2-3 fire drills, but we still understand the importance of fire drills. Fire drills will be every other month. The evacuation process is almost like a fire drill. These are emergency drills.

Alyssa and committee members: Thank you so much.

- Fundraising ideas

Alyssa: We will move that to the next meeting in old business.

Public Comment

- Very good presentation. Very important.

Dana Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 7:19pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Marton
Director of Student Services