Student Welfare and Compliance
Stakeholder Meeting NOTES
Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 3:30 p.m.

Attendance:
Elissa Andrade
Sonja Bloetner
Shella Cherry
Ed Clarke
Christina Conolly
Mark Eckstein
Greg Edmundson
Deb Feinstein
Kathy Greene
Elise Hawkins
Lt. Jon Heiderich
Gillian Huebner
Corrinne Millette
Laura Mitchell
Elizabeth Rathbone

Notes:
GE: Welcomed all, reviewed the agenda

SC: LGTBQ Virtual Town Hall scheduled for May 27, 2020, 6-8 p.m. Zoom Webinar to help connect and reconnect LGBTQ students/family during this Covid-19 crisis. Shared the proposed agenda and list of organizations who will be participating: Casa Ruby, Family Justice Center, GLSEN, MCCPTA, MoCo Pride Center, MoCo Pride Student Organization, PFLAG, SMYAL. Opportunity to discuss the impact of the current state of emergency on our LGBTQ students and provide resources available. Opportunity for Q&A with organization panelist.

DF: Presented overview of the Family Domestic Violence Campaign. Do You Feel Safe at Home? Partnership and collaboration with SAO, MCPS, MCPD, Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office, Commission of Women, and the Family Justice Center, to keep all safe. While everyone is isolated at home, domestic violence is still prevalent, but not all know how to report, how to handle situations, and what support resources are available. Greg shared the resource documents, which are available in six languages. The campaign is advertised on Face Book, Twitter, and Instagram. Over 1,000 resource cards have been handed out at meal distribution locations, pizza/food deliveries, and through the MCPD while on patrol/calls for service.

GH: Question: What training and resources are MCPS staff receiving?
Answer: Greg shared and reviewed the SWC resources and support documents:
- CAN Resource Guide, during Continuity of Learning through the COVID-19
- Draft of Student Welfare Checks, during school closures
- Support Services and Resources for staff, students, and families
Question: Are Body Safety Courses still occurring during distant learning?
Answer: Elizabeth advised that all Body Safety Courses were conducted in the fall 2019, with a directive to complete by December 2019. No current courses.

Reviewed Waymaking: OSFSE is constructing a new YouTube video series that identifies student stress, covers social and emotional supports for students, parents, and community. Waymaking will also cover mental health and supports available for LGBTQ students. The link will be shared for all.

Question: What supports are in place for LGBTQ, specifically, I dealt with a family who did not know how to get a hospital bed, or what resources or help was available for them during Covid, where can I direct the families?
Answer: Elizabeth advised she is the MCPS Mental Health Coordinator contact. The Crisis Center and Shady Grove Hospital Children’s Mental Health Clinic, are also good resources for families. Greg stated the COS mailbox can also be utilized.

VCAN Module: The module has been completed with the voiceover in English. Currently working with translation of Spanish, Vietnamese, French, Chinese, and Korean. Should be ready to launch July 1, 2020.

Reviewed update of FY21 Hate/Bias Procedures. Three tiered: Responsive, Restorative Actions, Preventative Actions. Presently the media has heightened the level of concern regarding discrimination towards the Asian community, as a result of COVID-19. MCPS has no reports/concerns to date.

Update of the number of CAN reports. 2645 to date, 87 while on Distant Learning, estimated 12 weekly. Majority online, 4 received through mail. SWC screens each report and follows up with CPS for those that are flagged for immediate concern. Reiterated the use of the welfare check guide during Distant Learning.

Question: Is the online report available for reporting Student Bullying?
Answer: Elizabeth stated that the communication and processes with principals needs to be revisited before it can be launched.

Parkland Middle School has mini grants (5K), which can be utilized to pay people to do virtual presentations, and Q&A sessions related to mental health issues, including minority and LGBTQ population. Suggested staff be paid to present. Staff cannot be paid as it is a conflict of interest and against Ethics Regulations. It was suggested to reach out to Identity, Minority Scholars Program or National Association of School Psychologist.

Action Items:
Confirm the status of the Online Bullying Form, complete all necessary steps to launch.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.