

NOTES
SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE MEETING
(Spring 2022 Public Meeting)
4 p.m. August 16, 2022

Welcome and Introductions

The School Safety and Security Committee held an in-person spring 2022 public meeting on May 25, 2022. Business Logistics & Purchasing Officer Alexis Licata called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Committee and support staff members present are indicated below.

Committee Member	Status
Millard House II	Present
Judith Cruz	Present
Kathy Blueford-Daniels	Present
HISD PD Chief Pedro Lopez	Present
HPD Chief Troy Finner	Absent
George Buenik	Present
Principal Carlos Phillips	Present
Jennifer Simmons	Present
Willie Spencer	Present
Alexis Licata	Present
Yesenia Taylor	Present
Melissa Guerrero	Absent

Support Staff/Presenters	Status
Roberta Scott	Present
Erica Graham	Present
Candice Castillo	Present
Doris Delaney	Present
Silvia Trinh	Present
Lisa McBride	Present
Veronica Mabasa	Present
Melissa Lopez	Present

Approval of Minutes from May 25, 2022

Upon motion by Chief Lopez, seconded by Trustee Blueford-Daniels, the minutes of the May 25, 2022, (spring 2022 public meeting) School Safety and Security Committee were approved by a vote of 9-1 abstention.

Voting Member	Favor	Abstain
Millard House	x	
Judith Cruz		x
Kathy Blueford-Daniels	x	
George Beunik	x	
Chief of Police Pedro Lopez	x	

Principal Carlos Phillips	x	
Jennifer Simmons	x	
Willie Spencer	x	
Yesenia Taylor	x	
Alexis Licata	x	

Speakers to Agenda Items

There were no speakers to agenda items.

Health/Medical Services Update (Candice Castillo)

An update was provided of the 2022–2023 protocols for COVID-19. A decrease in the trend on number of COVID cases has been reported. The current protocols meet published health recommendations that call for optional masking; COVID-19 confirmed or presumed individuals must stay home, and schools must notify parents.

Community COVID-19 drive-through testing events have been scheduled for the community as well as staff. Health department staff will also be used to provide the testing on HISD campuses. Each campus will have a designated area for the testing. The program is directly funded by the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

Trustee Blueford-Daniels asked if protocols had been established for monkey pox. Ms. Castillo responded that the protocols were the same as with any other communicable disease. In addition, health and safety protocols have been created to educate the community.

Social Emotional Learning Update (Roberta Scott)

Ms. Scott reported that the numbers were high in the current annual data related to social emotional learning, consisting of schoolwide crisis, staff crisis, behavior crisis, suicide ideation, and threat assessment. Therefore, in preparation for the return of teachers and students, the areas most in need of support were targeted for additional support and training.

Districtwide training is already in progress, with a goal of completion on all campuses within the first 30 days. The HISD Police Department has completed multiple crisis protocol trainings; school social workers and academic and guidance counselors have received district crisis protocol training as well.

Further training is taking place in the form of school crisis response and mental health crisis intervention. There is a need to teach relationship building skills such as self-awareness and social awareness, and instruction in those skills is embedded into the curriculum. Additional counselors have also been hired to support the crisis response team.

HISD Police Department Update (Chief Lopez)

Agencies around the nation are re-evaluating active shooter protocols as a result of the Uvalde incident. In response to that incident, additional hours of scenario-based training and hands-on breach training have been implemented. The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is also coordinating with the Houston Police Department to conduct joint active

shooter training on an annual basis. All supervisors will be trained in ICS (a field-based tactical communications system) and NIMS (a system for managing an incident at the local, operational area, regional, and state levels) procedures. Lastly, there will be training for all civilian personnel in CRASE (advanced law enforcement rapid-response training) protocols. Training will also be available in OneSource so all campus administrators and employees can also receive training.

Risk Management Update (Melissa Lopez

Safety drill badges have been ordered and will be distributed to all employees districtwide in September. The badges provide symbols for required drills that schools and facilities must conduct, with details of each drill on the other side of the badge and instructions on how to respond.

Reunification plan – finalizing plans for the district. Will be created for everyone to use – reuniting students by controlled release in the event of a mass emergency event.

Safety acknowledgement form – required form to be signed and on file for every student. It includes required safety drills, reunification information, contact information, and a reminder to parents that updated information must be available on file for each student.

TEA School Safety Action Steps

On June 30th all school districts were informed they would have to conduct a safety audit, and there were seven action steps that the district must follow. Further details concerning the TEA school safety action steps would be discussed during closed session.

A partial safety audit is due by September 9, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The School Safety and Security Committee adjourned to closed or executive session under Chapter 551 of Texas Government Code, Open Meetings Act, Subsections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.0821, 551.083, 551.084, and 551.089 at 4:28 p.m. for the purposes stated in the notice of this meeting. If any final action, vote, or decision on any matter considered in the closed session was required, such final action, vote, or decision was taken at the open meeting covered by this notice upon the reconvening of this public meeting or at a subsequent public meeting of the board upon notice thereof.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION IN THE BOARD AUDITORIUM

The School Safety and Security Committee reconvened the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Closing

The Safety and Security Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.