

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

4 Parents  
1 Grandparent  
1 Community  
1 Staff/Parent

Wayne Birster gave highlights of the work completed by the 2018 task force - changes were made from the suggestions of the Community Safety Taskforce. The main takeaway was the hiring of Security Supervisor Rik Thornton. As of Aug 2022, his department has grown to 10 people.

Rik shared his presentation - Questions asked and Hot Topics during:

- How does the Visitor Mgmt Security system pull information from drivers' licenses?
- What does a Campus Security Officer [CSO] do - WCASD CSO are trained in crisis management as well as providing security
- Police stationed in schools?
- Can police officers carry weapons in schools? Yes
- Looking at district-wide walkie talkie
- Is the Emergency Operation Plan and Multi-Hazard Plan online for anyone to review? The group wants to see it. Wayne and Rik said they will discuss it with Bob.
- Last year Staff did online training, this year staff will do practical training. Next year... Question asked what does training look like for elementary school students
- Rik told committee members the last thing he wants to do is stress out staff members during training
- Discussed school safety drills
- What was the \$900,000 spent on in 2019? Ted Harrison explained the EMS system
- Do the schools have a Stop the Bleed kit? Yes, every school has a trauma kit
- Cellular signals - are they really better? Peirce is problematic
- Fire Marshall and Chief of Police approve the plans
- Not every possible emergency is in the plans, but the staff is trained to adapt

Large Group Discussion

- Not every parent is safety minded, but those that are would like real answers
- Avenue for parents to contact Rk and admin team or have a Safety Advocate from this group at each school to be point person with email address - message needs to
- Rik - have safety teams of staff at each school to meet with School Resource Officers [SRO]
- Consider safety tips in Newsletter - offer how to talk to kids, and provide an email address to send questions - Flyer on how to talk to kids about school safety. Explain how safe our schools are.
- Parents share too much information.
- When an event occurs at school - can a quick generic acknowledgment message be generated?
- Do we open up this committee to new members? Try to have at least one staff & parent per building.
- This group should meet every two months
- Discuss communication, issue a sense of security to families and district practices
- Increase the visibility of safety/ security presence i.e. a large, community meeting to highlight what we are doing. Some do not even know Rik is here
- How do we spread the word the district is safe and can be trusted? Bring in anyone who wants to participate? Will that be a waste of time? How do you define positive value?

- Have a presentation ready to share with the community in event of an incident
- Introduce Rik and his team to the WCASD community & PTOC in September
- Highlight Kate Coulter for mental health
- How can this group support Rik and his team
- How parents can support schools with safety concerns