

Kansas School Mental Health Advisory Council

December 18, 2019

Approvals

- Agenda for December 18, 2019
- Minutes from October 17, 2019



Bullying Task Force Report

- Presentation
- Report
- Small Group Discussions



Blue Ribbon Task Force on Bullying



December 10 , 2019

Rick Ginsberg & James Regier, Co-Chairs

Objectives and Goals

- Research and identify current Bullying definition, trends, incidents, and prevention measures occurring across the state
- Coordinate with stakeholders to address relevant issues effectively, to best meet the needs of students
- Review work in the areas of social emotional learning as set forth by the State Board goals, identifying possible avenues that could reduce and prevent bullying and cyberbullying
- Review current statutes, regulations and policy to determine need for change
- Present recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education to address bullying, cyberbullying, prevention and training measures



Blue Ribbon Taskforce Meetings

- May 28, 2019 – Town Hall, Clearwater
- June 18, 2019 – Town Hall, Garden City
- August 5 – Town Hall, Salina
- September 25 – Town Hall, Girard
- October 30 – Town Hall, Wichita
- November 6 – Town Hall, Lawrence
- November 18 – Whitewater (Writing Team)
- November 19 – Webinar (KNEA, Topeka)
- December 2 – Town Hall, Topeka



Working Process

- Task Force composed of 35 members plus staff
- Six working committees created:
 - Data and Research
 - Evidenced-Based and Current Practices
 - Cultural Awareness
 - Policy Regulations/Accountability
 - Barriers and Solutions
 - Writing



Scope of the Problem

- KCTC survey (2018) – Have you seen someone bullied during the current year?:
 - 6th graders – 55.7%
 - 8th graders – 63.3%
 - 10th graders – 60.4%
 - 12th graders – 59.7%
- Have YOU been bullied this year –
 - Overall = 27.3%
 - Cyberbullying = 17.9%



Kansas Definition of Bullying

- "Bullying" means:
 - (A) Any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act or threat either by any student, staff member or parent towards a student or by any student, staff member or parent towards a staff member that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that such gesture, act or threat creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:
 - Harming a student or staff member, whether physically or mentally;
 - damaging a student's or staff member's property;
 - placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to the student or staff member; or
 - placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to the student's or staff member's property;
 - (B) cyberbullying; or
 - (C) any other form of intimidation or harassment prohibited by the board of education of the school district in policies concerning bullying adopted pursuant to this section or subsection (e) of K.S.A. 72-8205, and amendments thereto.
- "Cyberbullying" means bullying by use of any electronic communication device through means including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, pagers, online games and websites.



Current Statutory Requirements

- The board of education of each school district shall adopt a policy to prohibit bullying either by any student, staff member or parent towards a student or by a student, staff member or parent towards a staff member on or while utilizing school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event.
- The board of education of each school district shall adopt and implement a plan to address bullying either by any student, staff member or parent towards a student or by a student, staff member or parent towards a staff member on school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event. Such plan shall include provisions for the training and education for staff members and students.
- The board of education of each school district may adopt additional policies relating to bullying pursuant to subsection (e) of K.S.A. 72-8205, and amendments thereto.



Recommendation - 1

- Better Support and Direction for School Districts
 - Establish/appoint a statewide unit to offer guidance and support
 - This unit should compile a “bank” of evidenced-based promising practices
 - Continue state efforts like Bullying Awareness week



Recommendation - 2

- Continue and develop the state's focus on Social-Emotional and Character Development (SECD) education to address school bullying
 - Better communicate and share SEL-related supports available to schools
 - Oversight unit (see rec. #1) should be charged with providing information and direction in devising curricula to address bullying problems
 - School boards should consider the Kansas SECD and School Counselor standards in developing their legally mandated bullying plans



Recommendation - 3

- Examine current state law and consider appropriate guidance
 - Current KS law on bullying (KS statute 72-6147) is broad and somewhat inconsistent with research that identifies bullying as repetitive over time and involving a power imbalance
 - The State Board should examine current law and provide appropriate guidance



Recommendation - 4

- Local policies and plans must focus on relationships, school climate and culture, and the mental health impact of bullying in schools
 - Plans must address differing needs of students/staff, including, but not limited to: biological sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, race/ethnicity, disability, religion, and Socio-Economic Status (SES)
 - The whole school community (families, school personnel, students, etc.) need to be involved in policies and plans
 - Simple, effective and trusted means for reporting bullying are needed
 - Means for listening to students and families, and addressing their concerns, are part of a strong culture and climate and should be promoted. Behavioral interventions need time to work and should be monitored for effectiveness
 - Training for resiliency should be included in professional development
 - Consider the use of restorative approaches that avoid re-victimization (zero tolerance doesn't work)
 - Mental health support for schools should be available
 - Any plans should address perpetrators, victims and bystanders
 - Address large caseloads of school counselors, social workers & school psychologists (nurses)
 - Tie bullying prevention efforts in with other reforms and mandates



Recommendation - 5

- The state needs better data on school bullying and measures of assessing effectiveness
 - Encourage district participation in the KCTC survey
 - Areas to strengthen the KCTC survey: fewer questions per administration, administer same time each year, check psychometric reliability/internal consistency, collect information on all sub-groups (see rec. #4), include the current definition of bullying on the survey
 - Oversight unit (see rec. #1) should consider identifying or creating surveys regarding teacher perceptions of bullying and info regarding school climate
 - Assure programs implemented are evidence-based
 - Oversight unit (see rec. #1) should recommend measures that districts can use to assess effectiveness of bullying plans



Recommendation - 6

- Addressing Cyberbullying

- Districts should:

- Provide information regarding cyberbullying definition
 - Share information on cyberbullying plans
 - Hold cyberbullying awareness activities
 - Train educators and families about problems associated with cyberbullying
 - Find social media apps and other means to report cyberbullying
 - Involve students in plans and activities
 - School boards should monitor changes in federal laws on cyberbullying



Recommendation - 7

- **Training, Professional Development (PD), and Teacher Preparation**
 - Schools and districts need to put aside ample time and resources to support PD
 - Specific skills are needed to address bullying. Outside school support from the community, professional programs, etc. should be expected
 - The most promising anti-bullying practices are school-wide, universal and include a parental/family component. This is the goal of SEL efforts, and promising approaches should be considered
 - Provide in-service training for teachers regarding bullying coupled with preparation for staff, families and others in the community
 - Pre-service teacher preparation must also address bullying in schools and anti-bullying approaches
 - School districts must include families in anti-bullying training efforts



Blue Ribbon Task Force on Bullying

- Small Group Discussion/Activity
- Break
- Small Group Report Out



Discussion Questions

- What are the general takeaways/findings in the section you reviewed?
- What, if any, are the unmet needs identified in your section?
- What, if any, implications does your section have for school mental health and/or social-emotional growth practices in schools?
- What role might the School Mental Health Advisory Council play in addressing the identified unmet needs?



Free Care Provision of Medicaid

- Monica Murnan



What Can Medicaid Do Now?

- Provider Billing
 - A partner bills for services provided in a school
- School Based Billing
 - School is the provider
 - IEP Only
 - Health Related Services



For School Based Billing...

- Child must be Medicaid eligible on the date of service
- Service must be listed on the IEP
- School must follow the steps to “bill” to Kansas Medicaid



Things Can Change, But We Don't Quite Know How.....

- 2014 Changes were made and are referenced as Free Care Rule
- Feds encouraging states to look at this as a way to improve school safety and mental health services in schools



Things Can Change, But We Don't Quite Know How.....(cont.)

- Possible to bill for Medicaid eligible students who are not on an IEP
- Possible to add provider types that are not currently covered
- Possible to use existing system – just resubmit to feds



What could be the way it's done?

- Administrative Change
- Legislative Change
- Combination of Both
- Appropriation



Who needs to be talking?

- KSDE
- KDHE/Division of Health Care Finance
- Philanthropy



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Subcommittee Review of KASB Policy on Mandated Reporting



Wrap Up From This Mornings Discussions

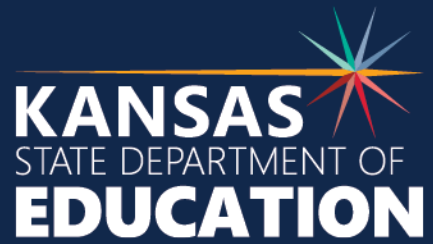
- Do we need to consider any further discussion or make any recommendations to move the work forward?



Public Comment

- The time limit for verbal comments is three minutes.
- Those making public comment will be given a verbal cue one minute before time expires.
- Please keep comments factual and objective. Please avoid using names of students or staff members.
- Comments will be taken under advisement by the council.





Working Lunch



Proposed Regulation on Mandated Reporter Training

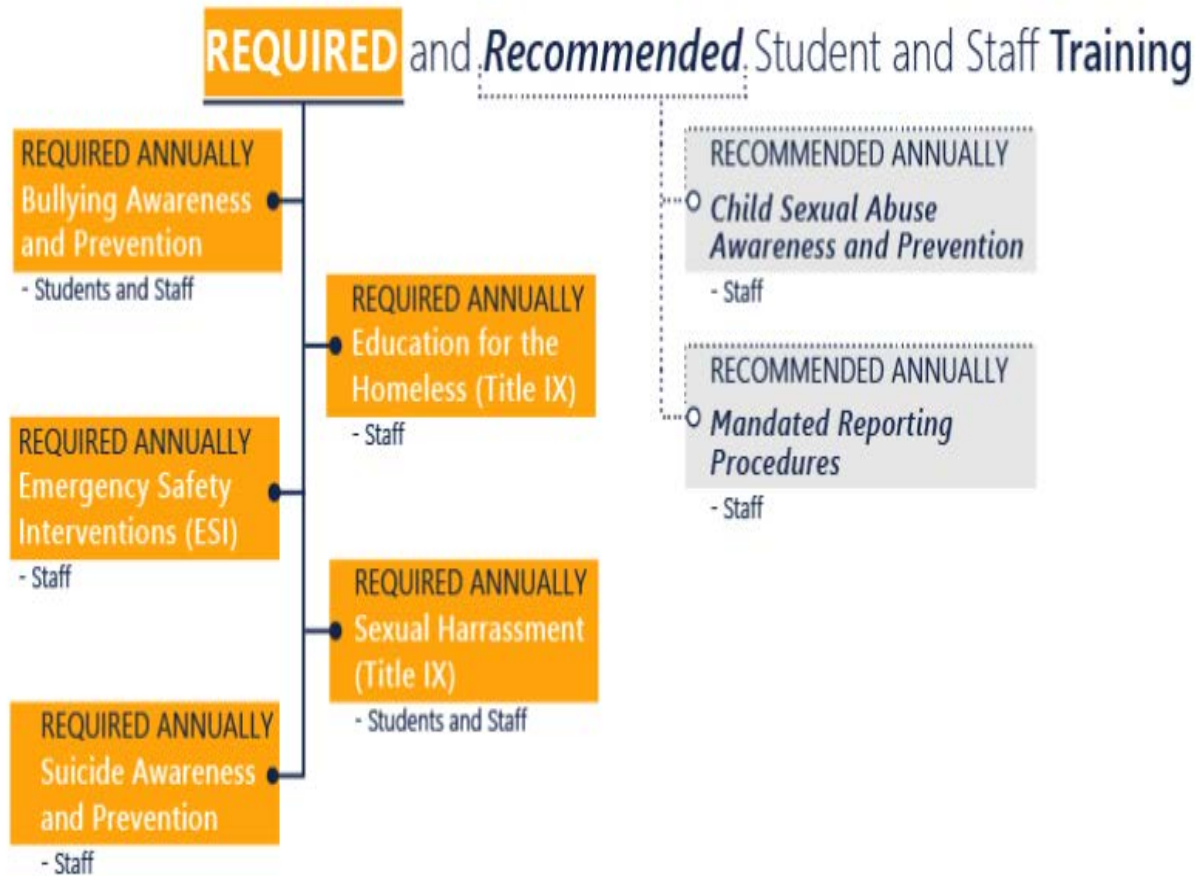
Brian Dempsey

Mandated Reporter Training

- 1) Require staff training on mandated reporting requirements and procedures, with guidance and resources provided by KSDE
- 2) Required training would include signs of abuse and neglect, to include child sexual abuse, with guidance and resources provided by KSDE
- 3) Recommend that districts institute, revisit or revise policies related to mandated reporting, with guidance and resources provided by KSDE



KSDE Prevention and Responsive Culture Webpage



- <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Student-Staff-Training>



Draft Regulation K.A.R. 91-31-43

91-31-43. Child Abuse and Neglect Mandated Reporter Training. All accredited education systems shall develop and implement written policies for annual child abuse and neglect mandated reporter training of all employees. The training must address child abuse and neglect reporting requirements when any individual has reason to suspect a student attending the education system has been harmed as a result of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse. Education systems shall maintain documentation each employee met the annual training requirement.





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The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.





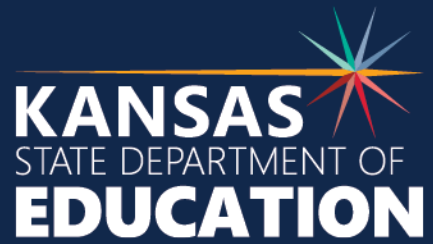
By-Laws Updates

Laura Jurgensen

By-Laws

- Review of changes
- Membership Application and Process
- Rotation of 1/3 of members each year





Member Updates

All



Wrap Up:
Next Meeting: February 13, 2019
Washburn Technical School



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