

Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes  
March 8, 2013

Present:

Frank Acojido, Acalanes  
Anna Duffy, DA's Office  
Pete Cardinal, Liberty  
Steve France, Acalanes  
Catherine Giacalone, CCCOE  
Scott Gerbert, San Ramon  
Greg Hetrick, Oakley  
Lindy Khan, CCCOE  
Lynn Mackey, CCCOE  
Jonathan Roselin, Mt. Diablo  
Bob Sanchez, Antioch  
Jan Steed, Brentwood  
Antinette Kelly Watkins, Assemblywoman Bonilla's Office

Welcome

Lindy welcomed all and we made introductions.

Lindy let us know that Carmen Angula no longer works for Assemblywoman Bonilla's office. Ms. Watkins from the Assemblywoman's office did join us, even though the connection and invitation was made only one day prior.

**District Attorney's Office**

- Anna Duffy updated us on the anti-violence, anti-bullying work she has been doing with a couple of schools in East County. She asked if there are any other middle schools who would like the program. Catherine G will make contact with her regarding some potential sites.
- At one of the elementary schools in the east county, she was surprised that about a third of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders have Facebook and Instagram accounts. They are having problems (bullying, inappropriate use) and it noted the importance for these accounts to be supervised by parents closely.
- Ann took a roll call to see who is using the locator system.
  - San Ramon has used it with a couple students. Scoot Gerbert from San Ramon shared some tips on using it. Make sure you get the name of the student's phone carrier because each carrier will show up clustered around a particular cell phone tower. He also stated that the more students in the system, the better the program, and that he has requested to ATT that there be a process that the system sends an alert to say who is

not in the geo fence location. Otherwise, it is too time consuming for administrators to be checking this frequently.

- Antioch is still working to get it set up.
- Lindy will find out what other districts are using it and how many students are signed into the system.
- The district reps had some court questions for Anna. Anna (or someone from her office) will talk to Judge Spanos about the issues raised by the districts. She will also try to set up a one-on-one meeting for the families whose children have not been in school all year.
- **We need to change the District Attorney name on the form from Nancy to Anna Duffy, and to make it clear that they should contact the school sites or district office, not the DA's Office.**

### **District Sharing**

- Lynn asked the districts if the ones who have students that feed into the Martinez classroom, if they had a plan for next year if COE were to close the classroom. Most indicated that they did not have a plan, and was hoping that Golden Gate would remain open.
- Jonathan from Mt. Diablo shared that they are doing good work in the area of alternatives to suspensions. He also asked who is doing restorative justice. Lindy shared that there is a webinar about restorative justice on March 20, 2013. She sent out the information.
- Greg from Oakley shared that they are struggling with their switch to Illuminate (student operating system).
- Acalanes: Frank and Steve have been doing a lot of work around updating their board policies and matrices on expulsion and suspensions. They will be sending discipline students to SARB. He also shared that Anna and the woman from John Muir mental health now sit on their SARB board.
- Scott from San Ramon shared that he would like to sit in on a SARB hearing in another district. He shared some of his truancy stories.
- Pete from Liberty shared that he is trying new things with SART and doing it in groups. Parents did not like meeting as a group. Liberty has a probation person sitting on their SARB board now.

- Bob from Antioch shared they are also doing group SARBs. They are dabbling in Restorative Justice. They are using a program called Facing History in Ourselves.
- Jan from Brentwood shared that they are keeping it focused on the children of the district. They have an interim Superintendent Doug Adams, who was the former Superintendent and doing well meeting with family and groups.

### **AB 1909**

- Catherine Giacalone shared two letters pertaining to AB 1909 regarding new requirements for foster youth and expulsions.
- Ed code has been changed to state that if you are going to expel a foster youth when it is not a mandatory expulsion you must contact the foster youth's legal counsel.

### **Bullying Prevention/Intervention**

Greg Hetrick discussed the need for a county-wide bullying prevention initiative. We could pull our resources and get Dr. Ovick to champion the issue. Lindy shared how this would be so helpful it since so many inter-district transfer appeals refer to bullying.

We did a brainstorm of resources:

- There is an upcoming ACSA bullying training at CCCOE bullying this Tuesday.
- Anna Duffy does bullying awareness information.
- San Ramon has done some site-by-site training with officer Steve Dorm, but no comprehensive curriculum or training.
- We need to research other districts that have done comprehensive bullying plans.
- Jonathan shared about the research showing that in order to take on bullying you must have a culture of kindness. It has to be site by site. It's a supervision issue. That is why cyber bullying is so challenging. Parents need to know that they have to check cell phones and internet usage.
- Brentwood adopted a program called "Rachel's Challenge".
- Antioch used "Character Counts" at one of the schools, but when the principal left the initiative stopped.

We formed a subcommittee to further discuss the issue: Jan, Jonathan, Bob, Lynn, Greg, Scott and Lindy will meet on March 25<sup>th</sup> at CCCOE Contra Loma Room beginning at 1:00.

## **State SARB Updates**

- Lindy passed out truancy definitions from CDE.
- There will be another interagency state policy form about chronic absences on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 5:30 in Sacramento.
- Lindy shared about the small pilot that we have been doing in our county using software that track chronic absences.
- Lindy shared one of the chronic absence reports and explained the data.
- If the districts are interested in this free software they should contact Lindy.

***Next Coordinating Council Meeting:  
May 10<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 12:00 CCCOE, Las Trampas***