

Minutes of the Region 5 SAB Virtual Meeting
June 24, 2020
Draft

Attendees: Allison Fulton, Kathy Hanley, Dawn Fawcett, Heather Spada, Ethel Anne Roome, Greg Simpson, Paula Gill-Lopez, Joy Geraci, Kristin Mabrouk, Debbie Berman, Carin Grunwald, Carly Matasavage, Haley Shoop, Patricia Gaylord, Tina LoRusso, Crystallee Martel, Bethany Didato

Allison opened up the meeting with a check in to see how everyone is doing.

Allison reminded everyone of what this group is coming together to do as stated on the agenda. The first few meetings we brainstormed about helping local communities adopt evidence-based practices on postvention. We were focusing on creating “teams” of folks to help promote best practices and connect people to the resources they needed after a suicide.

Since COVID19 restrictions this has been tabled.

Bethany Didato put in the chat box: Adopt robust mental health support services for students and employees. Train staff in trauma-informed practices and monitor and support students upon their return to school for signs of food or housing insecurity, abuse or neglect at home, grief, or other trauma due to the pandemic.

Re-entry:

Each school district has to make plans for re-entry to accommodate health concerns and social emotional well being of all the students and facility. Everyone is waiting for information from the Commissioner of Education and the Governor on what the guidelines will be.

Allison said it will probably be a little while before this group knows what it can do to support those efforts and maybe this group can brainstorm today on where do we fit it, how can we provide resources, what do people want what are they going to need and how do we predict that. There are some things we may be able to anticipate pretty fair indication of what will come.

Also, what can this group do to help the support our local communities too as work places opens up.

The Governor asked that each community develop their own long-term re-entry planning committees. Members of this group should reach out to local leadership.

Greg Simpson reported that there is an uptick in self harm and PTSD due to the pandemic. If everyone can share resources out there as much as possible to get word out **where people can get help**. PSA's, radio, videos, etc. Allison said if Greg would like to recommend to this group one or two activities or initiatives to take on – that is very welcome. If you have PSA's we can get them out. Greg said that new materials are being developed and he will get those out, but in the meantime get the word out to people on how they can get help – that is at the top of the list.

Paula and Gabe have been meeting with people at the state level.

Paula Gill-Lopez gave a presentation on re-entry for schools

See attached presentation

A top priority from The State Dept of Education is social emotional learning. A priority for each of us is selfcare and being mindful that, to a certain degree, everyone has been a “victim” during the pandemic.

Parents and Teachers need a lot of support. We need to remind parents and teachers to take care of themselves so they can help their kids and students.

Allison would like to have some success stories on universal screenings if anyone has any. Also, she suggested that we form sub-committees this year to keep momentum going and initiate action steps.

Ethel-Anne Roome has a great program to help kids with loss that she is working on and will be made available online very soon. She will share it.

Haley provided a good resource for parents, particularly those whose children have designated services at school, etc. Dr. Alicia Farrell - <https://aliciafarrellphd.com/>

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Fawcett, Prevention Coordinator