



**STATEWIDE SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2021  
3:00 P.M.**

**MEETING LOCATIONS:**

Due to the circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, Statewide School Safety Task Force (Task Force) met via videoconference. In accordance with Governor Sisolak's Directive 021 (subsection 37), there was no physical location designated for this meeting. The meeting was livestreamed on the Nevada Department of Education website.

**Summary of Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

**MEMBERS PRESENT via videoconference**

Chief Jason Trevino, Chair  
Mr. Anthony York, Vice-Chair  
Deputy Chief Ryan Miller  
Mr. Matt Williams  
Dr. Leon Ravin  
Ms. Zoe Butterfield  
Ms. Angila Golik  
Dr. Dave Jensen  
Mr. Tam Larnerd  
Mr. Joe Roberts  
Ms. Kasina Douglass-Boone  
Dr. Charles Russo

**DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT via videoconference**

Director Christy McGill  
Amber Reid  
Laura Hutchinson  
Jennah Fiedler

**SENIOR DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL via videoconference**

David Gardner

## **AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE via videoconference**

Mr. Roy Anderson, Washoe County School District Emergency Manager

Ms. Katherine Louden, Washoe County School District Coordinator for Counseling and Social Work Services

Shauna Bake, MTSS Coordinator for Pershing County School District

### **1. Call to Order; Roll Call; Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting of the Task Force was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Jason Trevino, Task Force Chair. Quorum was established. Chair Trevino led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Trevino moved to Agenda Item #2

### **2. Public Comment #1**

Public Comment was submitted via e-mail by Jeff Church. Ms. Reid read Mr. Church's comment to the Task Force. Ms. Shauna Bake also provided public comment. Comments are included in their entirety in Appendix I (See attached Appendix).

Chair Trevino moved to Item #3

### **3. Approval of January 5, 2021 Minutes (*Information/Discussion*)**

Chair Trevino tabled Item #3 until the next meeting as minutes were not ready for review.

### **4. Review updates for NRS 388 and current BDRs around school safety and school based mental health (*Information/Discussion/Possible Action*)**

Chair Trevino noted that Roy Anderson and DAG Gardner were present for this discussion.

Chair Trevino asked if there was a preference of whether to start with the recommendations or with Mr. Gardner and issues of jurisdiction. Dir. McGill offered that we start with Recommendation 1 and Mr. Gardner can speak up as we get to the section regarding jurisdiction. Chair Trevino agreed.

Update from Dir. McGill: Superintendent Ebert has submitted SB 36 which will be heard tomorrow. As soon as we have our Recommendations, we need to submit those recommendations sooner than later and they must come directly from the Task Force. Chair Trevino asked that if we finalized those changes today, would Ms. Reid be able to get those recommendations ready in time for tomorrow's hearing for SB 36. Ms. Reid agreed she could.

### ***Recommendation #1***

Roy Anderson has proposed an edit to NRS 388.243 (Development committee to develop a plan to be used by schools in responding to crisis, emergency, or suicide; submission of plan to board of trustees or governing body of charter school and Division of Emergency Management), after discussing with the Mike Wilson, Clark County Emergency Manager,

that they would like to add language stating that the use of FEMA's Guide to Developing High Quality Emergency Operations Plan be used to develop the plan and be an "All Hazards" plan, keeping with best practices with the Emergency Management realm nationwide. This modernizes the plan. This would also align with the model plan that was developed by the Task Force previously, as that plan was based off the FEMA Guide. There is also language that is taken from 388.253 regarding what the model plan should encompass. Suggests removing the language from 253 as it is redundant and the language in the amended 243 would be comprehensive.

Chair Trevino opened the item for questions and discussion. Ms. Reid informed the Task Force that according NRS 388.255 the Department of Education is required to provide through regulation the process by which the development committees develop their plans. This regulation was revised and approved last year by the Board of Education in November. This particular regulation is not subject to Nevada Administrative Code Act and does not need to be filed with the Legislative Committee on Education, it only has to be filed with the Secretary of State's office. That regulation does clarify in the language and she can provide a copy of the language to the Task Force of LCB File No R135-20. Regulatory language does instruct that the model policy does have to come from a nationally accepted best practice source and does reference 388.253. As Mr. Anderson pointed out 241 and 243 and the rest of the sections leading to 253 all reference back to the policy in 253. While it is circular, the requirement that all of the elements that are included in the model plan also be considered and included at minimum in the plan by the development committees is addressed in statute already. If the language is moved from 253 to 243 then the regulation that was just passed would need to be updated.

Mr. Anderson concurs with Ms. Reid in her assessment but says if consolidating the NRS would cause more trouble than necessary by requiring a change in the regulation, that needs to be discussed.

Chair Trevino asked for questions or comments from members. Vice-Chair York commented that it is important in the recommendations to include the language "all hazard" because it would make it where the legislature doesn't need to keep adding more specifics, as it would be covered under that term under national standards. Chair Trevino clarified that Vice-Chair York is suggesting that the first section of the changes Mr. Anderson suggested be implemented, but not the second section that would consolidate the NRS under 388.243. Vice-Chair York confirmed that was his assessment and added that after hearing Ms. Reid explain that more work would be created in having to change the regulation, he supports her assessment, but believes the language regarding national standards and all-hazard plans is important.

Ms. Reid clarified that the regulation passed by the Board of Education in November requires the identification of nationally accepted best practices or to develop best practices if none are

available and identifies relevant stakeholders. As Vice-Chair York noted, the items that have been added to the NRS by legislature, some are in the FEMA Guide, some aren't. The language about developing best practices where they do not exist allows entities to develop plans to issues specific to the state or region. She gave the example of best practices developed in Nevada in regard to the transportation of minors in crisis for treatment. She also noted that often NRS does not cite federal agencies or other organizations by name because if the name of that office were to change, then the NRS would have to be amended to reflect that change, hence the use of the phrase "nationally accepted best practices." Offered that the language could refer to a CFR.

Mr. Anderson commented that the language could reference 44 CFR could work. It is the chapter on Federal Emergency Management and discusses preparedness and disaster assistance that helps govern emergency management.

Chair Trevino asked if it was even necessary to reference a CFR or if it should just have the "all-hazards" language.

Ms. Reid said she can capture the "all-hazards" language for the friendly amendment, but the "national accepted best practices" might be duplicative considering the regulation. The decision about whether or not it needs to be in both places can be left to the experts at the Legislative Council Bureau.

Chair Trevino approves of the plan to add the "all hazards" and possibly a reference to "national best practice" and asks for additional comments from members.

Member Douglass-Boone concurs.

Chair Trevino hearing no concerns from members, requests that the Task Force move to the next proposed edit.

Director McGill explained that last session it added that Department of Emergency Management to review school safety plans.

Chair Trevino expressed there was confusion about whether DEM would be simply accepting plans or approving them, and if they are approving them what are the required components they should be looking for. Asked Mr. Anderson to speak on this, as from the Chair's recollection this was initially brought up by him.

Mr. Anderson concurred with Chair Trevino. He states that the law says that the districts and charters have to work with their local emergency manager to develop the plan. It seems redundant to have DEM approve a plan that already has tacit approval from the local emergency manager, who helped developed it. There was a question on why this was considered necessary and if it needs to remain.

Chair Trevino asked if a representative for Emergency Management would like to comment on this.

Mr. Williams concurred with Mr. Anderson. DEM would like the language about how they “may audit” plans removed. Chair Trevino asked if DEM would be on board with a change in language that would allow DEM to receive the plans, but not approve them. Mr. Williams noted that DEM does not have the staff to review all of the plans but is required under NRS to receive plans.

Member Russo noted that the language provided for the criteria to audit plans is vague.

Member Larnerd states that it would be more pertinent to have local managers approve plans as they better understand the risks of their areas.

Ms. Reid asked for clarification that there is consensus to remove the approval language and retain the submission language.

Chair Trevino clarified that it should allow a review, but not approval. Ms. Reid confirmed that the review would be for the required components in 388.253. Chair Trevino concurred. Mr. Williams and Mr. Anderson also concurred that process would work.

Chair Trevino asked Director McGill to move on to the next section. Ms. Hutchinson state that the only other piece that was up for discussion was NRS 392.450, which will require input from the Office of the State Fire Marshall and they do not have a representative at this meeting.

Vice-Chair York asked for clarification that the items discussed this meeting were just ones that had not been covered in previous meetings and that the language that was approved in previous meetings is being captured in the friendly amendment.

Chair Trevino confirmed

Ms. Reid said that she is capturing the intent, but the language may be slightly different, if the Task Force approves.

Chair Trevino confirmed he does not have an issue with that.

Director McGill asked if any of the members had issue with these changes or if their respective organization would have an issue with changes. No concerns given.

### ***Recommendation #2***

Language given from Member Roberts regarding suicide prevention training.

Member Ravin asked for the paragraph to stay on the screen during discussion.

Member. Jensen thanked Mr. Roberts for the language, but noted the language was fairly arbitrary, possibly to allow districts to make decisions for what is best for them. Also concerned that the language around statewide suicide prevention may be considered an unfunded mandate if these trainings mean a school district has to provide time and substitutes and the costs associated with those.

Mr. Roberts agreed that the language was meant to be flexible and noted that there are plenty of free trainings available in the state, including from Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP). The state suicide problem is everyone's responsibility. Also recommended peer-to-peer programs that are available, like the Help Squad previously mentioned by Mr. Larnerd.

Mr. Jensen asked if their Youth Mental Health First-Aid training, which needs to be recertified every 2 years, would qualify or if it would have to be yearly trainings. Mr. Roberts feels it should be touched on with onboarding and yearly refreshers would be best.

Ms. Douglass-Boone asked if this would cover support staff like office personnel and what the associated costs may be. Mr. Roberts noted that Nye County School District used OSP to train every single one of their employees for free. Clark County School District (CCSD) has a 40-minute online course. A school district could develop their own in-house materials. The training should be tailor made to the district's needs.

Dr. Ravin is thrilled to see how many available trainings there are, but training doesn't demonstrate competency. It may be that this component is built into these programs, he is unsure, but knows that just giving the information to people does not mean they are able to apply that information.

Mr. Roberts concurs with Dr. Ravin's concerns. CCSD does have a 'check for knowledge' after training, but he cannot speak for other districts. Dr. Ravin asks if there is room to amend the language to focus on competency of the staff.

Ms. Reid mentioned that suicide prevention is in three places in NRS and it does apply to all school personnel and is asking clarification whether the Task Force is requesting a change to statute or asking for funding to better support the requirements that are already in place.

Mr. Roberts agreed that of the most frustrating things in public education is the unfunded mandate and districts do need a financial boost.

Ms. Loudon agreed with Mr. Roberts regarding the need for funding. Training is already mandated in NRS but would like to see more consistency and would like to add prevention to prevention and intervention. While there are many programs that are free, some can be expensive. Washoe County School District is also seeing an increase in staff members who have been reporting suicidal ideation. This training will also help staff capacity as well.

Consensus that while this should be a recommendation, the Task Force does not need to submit new language and should add postvention to the language.

Dr. Ravin asks for a minor edit to the language. “Schools should have a menu of training available and have an ability to demonstrate staff competency in suicide prevention interventions to individualize the training to meet their needs.”

Chair Trevino asks if there is any input on those trainings. Ms. Loudon gave approval for change.

Mr. Larnerd says that each school should have a pre-intervention plan in place to like Help Squad to minimize and reach out to struggling students. Help Squad members are elected by their peers for being empathic and easy to talk to. Feels schools should be obligated to have some sort of system in place to help identify students and put them in touch with resources.

Mr. Roberts agreed with Mr. Larnerd. There is language regarding the student and community piece and that language can be revisited if needed.

Vice-Chair York noted that the first sentence should read “all school staff” not “all district staff” and agrees with Mr. Larnerd.

Chair Trevino asks if anyone disagrees with Vice-Chair York’s suggestion, no disagreement noted.

Regarding 2.3: Dr. Jensen requests that the language say that “... categorical funds and removed from Tier C as considered in the Pupil Centered Funding Plan in order to...” to align the language with what is happening with the Pupil Centered Funding (PCF) Plan.

Ms. Douglass-Boone asked if this will be able to protect social workers and specialized instructional support personnel (SISP) from budget cuts and how funds will be moved around. Ms. Reid clarified this would be in reference to SISPs and School Resource Officers. In the previous session this also included infrastructure improvement funds, which was understood to be a one-time expenditure and funding for Social Emotional and Academic Development, which was swept during this summer’s Special Session.

Ms. Bake voiced concern that the language doesn’t specifically point out that entering these funds into PCF would remove supports that students in Nevada need.

### ***Recommendation #3***

Director McGill read the proposed change. Chair Trevino asked for questions or suggestions.

Dave Jenson: Recommendation to change language from “could be implemented” to “Recommends taking the following actions”

Ms. Reid concurs that the change can be made. Chair Trevino supports changes. No other concerns or questions.

***Recommendation #4***

Director McGill: Should 4.1 be removed to focus on SISP in Schools and School Resource Officers?

Dr. Jensen and Ms. Douglass-Boone agree to leave it in as a recommendation while understanding that with the current economy it likely won't be implemented.

***Recommendation #5***

Due to these funds being swept by Special Session, the four recommendations from the previous task force are being carried forward.

***Recommendation #6***

This recommendation was mostly accomplished and codified in NRS last session. Recommendation was brought forward with an addition about the data being reported in a user-friendly format.

Dr. Ravin asked about the use of the term "anti-social" and whether it aligns with DSM-V. Director McGill noted the term is used in reference to Social Emotional Learning and is not in reference to the DSM-V. Ms. Loudon suggested changing it to "to promote pro-social behavior" or "promote overall student success."

Chair Trevino asked if Mr. Roberts had anything to add on this section, Mr. Roberts declined.

Ms. Douglass-Boone asked if it would be appropriate to include language about what happens when a school is not meeting this standard for disproportionate discipline. Ms. Reid said that the previous bills do have some language regarding that, and that those concerns can be addressed in regulatory language that is forthcoming.

Director McGill confirmed that the language change regarding "anti-social" will meet Dr. Ravin's concerns. Dr. Ravin concurred.

***Recommendation #7***

Dr. Ravin: this recommendation recognizes there is significant risk to self and others in regard to storage of handguns and would request addition for a one-hour training out of the already prescribed mandatory trainings on self-harm, harm to others, and safe guns storage for individuals licensed to practice medicine, Physician Assistants, APRNs, etc.

Chair Trevino noted he has fielded concerns on why this group would be making recommendations for entities outside of education (medical licensing board) and that it should come from the medical community.



Dr. Ravin noted that many licensing boards already require many trainings on these things, this would only require a modification to add safe gun storage. Kids don't usually go purchase weapons, they acquire them from home, and this would put it in the purview of this task force and allow physicians and psychiatrists who work with kids, like for annual physicals, to discuss this topic as a health concern. He also asked if any of those who reached out to Chair Trevino were members of the medical community who would be impacted by this recommendation. Chair Trevino confirmed they were not members of the medical community.

Ms. Reid asked for clarification regarding the recommendation. Is Dr. Ravin recommending that the Task Force submit draft language to amend each section of NRS where required training is mentioned or is he suggesting that the Task Force recommend that the Board of Health consider adding information on safe gun storage to their existing requirements for those continuing education credits?

Dr. Ravin would be content the making the recommendation to the Board of Health.

Ms. Reid suggest changing the language to clarify that this is a recommendation to the Board of Health to add this to their already established training on the prevention of suicide.

Chair Trevino agrees and asked Director McGill if the portion about jurisdiction that DAG Gardner needed to be present for had been missed. Director McGill confirmed that still needed to be discussed, but there is likely not enough time left in this meeting to have that conversation and recommends it be added to the next report. Members concur.

Chair Trevino sought motion to approve the interim report. Vice-Chair York notes that approval is Item #5.

**5. 2021 School Safety Task Force Interim Report Update (*Information/Discussion/For Possible Action*)**

Vice-Chair York notes that the discussion for this item happened during Item #4.

Chair Trevino asked Ms. Loudon if she had other issues to discuss.

Ms. Loudon wanted to note that the appendix in area 16 the section related to trauma sensitive and trauma informed schools, that the districts are moving forward in looking at trauma informed schools. Also wanted to note how important SafeVoice is due to its unique position allowing students to report and law enforcement and schools to respond. She also wanted to propose providing schools with free tools like psychological first aid they could use for "Code Red" debriefing and preparation. She sees that often after a Code Red there are many staff members that are shaken and don't have the proper tools. Also, would like it added to remind school district to review the section on mental health in the Governor's Path Forward document.

Chair Trevino asked if the Task Force wanted to add these in this meeting. Vice-Chair York agreed with Ms. Louden's concerns but did not think there was the time to take it on in this meeting. He also noted that many of those items are already in NRS in the crisis emergency and response plans.

Chair Trevino asked for a motion to approve the Recommendations as amended in Item 4. Dr. Ravin motioned. Mr. Larnerd seconded. Not seeing any further discussion, Chair Trevino moved for a voice vote. Approved on voice vote with no dissent.

**6. Scheduling of Future Meeting Dates (Information/discussion/For Possible Action)**

Dr. Russo believed that there should be another meeting in two weeks to review the report but deferred to Director McGill's and Ms. Reid's opinion if it would be necessary. Ms. Reid noted that as long as the Task Force has authorized NDE staff to draft the report with their recommendations it won't require additional review but will leave that to the Chair's discretion. Dr. Russo agreed and states that the Task Force can be adjourned until needed in the future.

Mr. Larnerd asked if there were any concerns about BDRs that may drop in the next few weeks that would need review by the Task Force. Chair Trevino suggested a meeting in three weeks, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Ravin concurred and Chair Trevino suggested March 2<sup>nd</sup> to accommodate the testing schedule for Mr. Larnerd. Meeting set for March 2, 2021 at 3 p.m.

**7. Future Agenda Items (Information/Discussion)**

Look at any proposed BDRs on school safety and may want to dedicate a meeting on mental health concerns.

**8. Public Comment #2**

No additional public comment

**9. Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned by the Chair at 5:10 p.m.

## Appendix I

*Shauna Bake, MTSS Coordinator for Pershing County School District:*

In 2014 they were awarded Project AWARE and she was sitting on a state meeting last week and they were discussing the pros and cons of unprotecting funds for school based mental health professionals. Nevada has spent so much time and money investing in these systems in the school districts and school based mental health is currently a “must fund” and fears that unprotecting these funds will make it a “should fund” item. By pulling these funds away, no matter how committed her superintendent is to mental health, he has to provide for academics first and that funding would disappear. Her plea is to think about the funding and how much work Pershing, and the state have done to improve mental health outcomes for students and families.

*Jeff Church:*

I am the newly elected Trustee for Washoe County School Board (WCSD) Dist. A but views are mine and do not represent those of WCSD.

I am a retired Reno Police Sergeant, Rangemaster, and retired USAF Intelligence Officer.

I am 100% opposed to recommendation #7-23 Recommendation #23. (Mandate that the licensing boards...). The Task Force has no business being involved in a constitutionally protected issue outside the confines of our schools-none.

My SUGGESTION ON SCHOOL SECURITY:

As a trained professional including Active-Shooter, the Task Force seems to ignore technology and physical security. More studies and recommendations should be on the issue of Safe Rooms, bullet resistant command posts at visible central locations in schools with access to various technological resources to help neutralize attackers as well as monitoring all aspects of student and staff safety.

While they can be off site, centrally located at inside locations presents the appearance of added security while not requiring armed sworn officers.

I believe that technology also allows video surveillance easily allows a single centralized location to monitor schools 24/7/365 statewide. One or a few central motoring locations allows a non-sworn professional to monitor schools and thus observe criminal or safety issues and direct Law Enforcement more safety. The monitor could be in Kansas or anywhere. Costs shared by all users.\*

\*Recent attacks on other government allows shared monitoring outside of schools at other Govt property.  
Note: Federal Court houses use a similar monitoring system.

Example: The Monitoring Tech observes after hours graffiti and reports such to Law Enforcement. Or a burglary in progress after hours.

Example: Tech observes active shooter(s) and thus can direct Law Enforcement with the location, description of shooter, as well as employing technological recourses to help distract or neutralize the attacker.