

MBK Focus Group 3 Preventing Violence and Providing Second Changes (FG3)
Meeting Date: February 15, 2019

Attendees: Mike Carignan, Officer Clancy, Joe Boston, Suzanne Harvey, Allison Joseph, Linda Gathright, Paul Janampa, Shawn Nelson, Mike Apfelberg, and Bobbie D Bagley.

Facilitator: Shawn Nelson

Note Taker: Bobbie D Bagley

Meeting Objective: Review the goal for FG3 and identify 2-3 objectives to focus on. Based on the discussion of the goal of this FG to prevent violence and provide second changes, considerations for focusing on the following objectives were prioritized:

- Tackling youth violence through cross-agency and cross-sector approaches
- Promoting equity in discipline
- Identify evidence-informed and evidence based programs and practices to address crime, juvenile delinquency, prevention and child safety.
- Provide mental health supports and address exposure to toxic stress using trauma informed care

Discussion Highlights:

Suzanne updated the committee on the Bills

- HB 667 – Retained in committee.
- SB 302 will be heard next week
- HB 231 – hearing held this week. No results available as of yet. Suzanne will follow up on Tuesday.

Suspension Data Review:

Bobbie reported on the data provided by Bob Cioppa to discuss the rates of suspension based on gender, grades, race and ethnicity. The data shows the frequency of suspension per student, total suspensions. The data can be further evaluated and stratified across each variable. In review of the data it appears that there is a disproportionately suspension rate amongst youth of color.

The group would like to see the data analyzed across those variables and what the suspension rates looks like across ESOL, food and reduced lunches, income and special needs. Bobbie will have Angela Lumenello, the City DPHCS Epidemiologist further analyze the data. Bobbie will also follow up with Bob Cioppa for get more information on the requested variables.

NPD Role In School Suspensions:

The role of the police officer was discussed. Officer Clancy described the NPD role with juveniles in certain cases:

Thirteen (13) is the lowest age that the juvenile can be arrested.

Warned, Council and Release – Could be a student that may be arrested. They are booked and released to a parent or guardian. If it is the juveniles' first offence, what it entailed is reviewed and a determination is made. Minor offense is determined with a release based on a counseling and a warning.

Diversion Program – Youth Council – juvenile would get arrested. If they qualify they get the service. Parent is contacted. If the youth participates in the program the case is dropped. If the youth fails to participate they get a court date. They can be diverted from the court system if they participate in the program successful.

Petition – Leads to a juvenile court date. The youth would then go to through the court system and the legal system.

Youth Council has another program that the City supports (CHINS) that youth can be referred to. To qualify for this program the youth referred can have no arrests and no court activities.

Action Items:

Further clarifying information needed to explore more:

- Why are youth getting the 10 - day suspension?
- What are the guidelines for suspension? How are the time periods decided?
- What are the criteria for suspension? What offenses lead to suspension?
- What is already happening in the schools?
- Is the school psychologist involved in review of suspensions?

The data provided by Bob Cioppa shows there are 65 counts of 10-day suspension.

- What are more drill downs we can do with this data?
- What is the school drop out rate?

Looking further at the Hispanic population:

- How many have ESL?

Looking further at the 9th graders' data:

- What % of these youth is special needs and have free reduced lunch?
- What % of these children is homeless?

Future Considerations:

- There needs to be some consistency with suspensions. What pilot programs exist at some of the schools that are having these problems?
- Possibly have Fitzpatrick involved in some manner.
- Lisa Yates and Mike have met and Lisa may be able to attend the next meeting.
- Consider having youth on board. Think about meeting at the school.

Next Meeting Date:

March 1, 2019, 8:30 AM at the United Way.