

Task Force on Equitable and Inclusive School Environments – Subcommittee #1 February 24, 2022, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting Call In: 1-802-828-7667 Conference ID: 792 431 589# 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5 Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

<u>Present:</u> Meaghan Morgan -Puglisi, Vermont-National Education Association, Chair; Sandra Cameron, Vermont School Boards Association; Charles Becker, Legal Aid Disability Law Project; Karen Price, Vermont Family Network; Amy Wheeler-Sutton, Building Effective Strategies for Teaching Students Project at the University of Vermont; Lindsey Halman, Vermont Restorative Approaches Collaborative; Chris Sheehan, teacher, appointed by the Vermont-National Education Association; Ana Lindert-Boyes, Twinfield Union High School, Vermont Principals' Association/UP for Learning; and Justin Picard, Vermont School Counselor Association.

AOE: Chris Case, Amy Murphy

Members of the public/others: Susan Aranoff

Call to Order/Roll Call/Amendments to Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 11:34am

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes from February 4, 2022 Meeting

Motion made by Amy Wheeler-Sutton; Second made by Karen Price Vote was unanimous

Public to be Heard - None

Working Session

"Definition of Most Serious Behavior"

Sandra pointed out that we should mention the State Board of Education has regulations and policies around Alcohol and Drug use.

The definition of suspension needs to include any time a student is sent home, so as to not allow a loose interpretation that permits "unofficial suspensions."

Cite the National Disabilities Rights Network, VT Disability Law Project, and VT Family Network and other organizations' anecdotal data to paragraph about these suspensions.

Karen will reach out for a quote from a parent to add a concrete example of this practice.



Insert a statement about how we can make our best recommendation, but legal advice is missing.

Discussion on if we should include a list of offenses that should not result in exclusionary discipline. When we meet next time, we will decide whether to include this. Meaghan will look at California and other states for language on specifics.

Amy will send the final report to everyone on March 2nd, feedback due to her March 4th, final sent out March 7th to vote on it at the March 8th full task force meeting.

Best Practices (put together by Justin).

How much do we put in the main report versus in the appendices.

Include an appendix by Justin of What Restorative Practices look like in a school.

Discussion about School Resource Officers (SROs) being trained in Restorative Practices (RP) and/or de-escalation techniques

Karen suggests: "The TF recommends the legislature requires anyone involved in the process of discipline in a school be trained in RP and/or de-escalation techniques."

If anyone has a recommendation for language around using the Maryland study coming out (RP training reduces exclusionary discipline), let Amy know.

We will meet Tuesday, 1 March from 11am-12pm

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:31pm Motioned by Charles; seconded by Karen

Meeting minutes submitted by: Meaghan Morgan-Puglisi

