

# MINUTES

## *Lincoln Safe & Successful Kids Interlocal Board*

Lincoln Public Schools Boardroom – 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the LPS District Office – 5905 'O' St.  
Thursday, November 12, 2020 ~ 12:15 p.m.

### **Board Members Present:**

Kathy Danek  
Richard Meginnis

Connie Duncan  
Bennie Shobe

Don Mayhew

### **Board Members Absent:**

Leirion Gaylor Baird

### **Staff Members Present:**

Nola Derby-Bennet, LPS CLC Director  
Holly Lewis, LPR Asst. Director  
John Neal, LPS Asst. to Superintendent  
Roy Rivera, LPR Office Specialist  
Russ Uhing, LPS Director, Student Services  
Daniel Payzant, LPR Asst. Recreation Manager  
Joseph Wright, LPS Director of Security

Jeff Bliemeister, Police Chief  
Leslie Eastman, LPS/ESU 18  
Denise Pearce, LPR Spec. Projects Adm.  
Lynn Johnson, LPR Director  
Luke Bonkiewicz, LPD

**Call to Order & Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act':** As per law, Chairperson Danek announced that the Board follows the regulations of the Open Meetings Act and called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Roll was called by Roy Rivera, Secretary.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Don Mayhew and seconded by Richard Meginnis to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2020, SSKI Board meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Kathy Danek, Connie Duncan, Don Mayhew, Richard Meginnis, Bennie Shobe.** **"No": None. Motion carried.**

**Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items:** No one from the public requested to speak with the Board regarding any items not listed on the agenda.

### **Report Regarding School Resource Officers (Protective Programming) for FY 2019-20:**

John Neal summarized the 2019-2020 School Resource Program Annual Review. A copy is attached to the official minutes on record. Via the SSK Interlocal Agreement, LPS and the City have committed funding for Community Learning Centers, mental health services, and School Resource Officers, as well as a threat assessment officer. Dr. Neal indicated that even though the focus of the presentation today is the School Resource Officer program, it was important to review the framework of the interlocal agreement, as all three programmatic areas are part of a larger, integrated system of support. Nola Derby-Bennet shared information regarding the Community Learning Centers. Russ Uhing provided information regarding about mental health services, Leslie Eastman, Officer Luke Bonkiewicz, and Joseph Wright reviewed key takeaways from the SRO Program Annual Review.

John Neal opened the floor for questions.

Don Mayhew asked Officer Bonkiewicz if there is a student who had one referral a month, would that count as nine separate referrals or one referral? Officer Bonkiewicz replied that this issue was debated at length, and it was decided that in this example, the student would be counted as one referral. Mr. Mayhew asked how our data compares to other communities similar in size and demographics? Officer Bonkiewicz replied that the type of compiled data is rare nationally. Other communities similar in size and demographics were approached but simply are not collecting the amount of data in detail nor to the depth that LPS and the City do.

Mr. Mayhew asked Dr. Eastman if she could expand on the response rates of the perception survey regarding the SRO Program and whether they were they proportional to our overall population? Dr. Eastman stated that there are no concerns regarding underrepresentation. The response rates were pretty good.

Russ Uhing highlighted the importance of mental health services and our community's commitment to increasing mental health support system for students and families.

Officer Bonkiewicz shared that he recently met with a community group that was not clear about what SROs do. The impression in some cases is that SROs wait around until there is a student who does "something bad." Officer Bonkiewicz emphasized that SROs are at schools to build relationships with students, counselors, and teachers.

Bennie Shobe asked how data is protected and confidentiality is maintained for the general dataset. Officer Bonkiewicz indicated that the data has been highly anonymized.

Richard Meginnis congratulated the group on an amazing job and the quality of the data compiled.

Kathy Danek mentioned that she visited three middle schools and asked how the SRO program was going. She noted that everyone was extremely positive: children, staff and administration. She also commended the group on the quality of the data collection.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Danek noted that the next meeting will be Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 12:15 p.m., and will be held at the Lincoln Public Schools District Office Boardroom, 5905 'O' Street. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.