

**Vermont School Crisis Planning Team Meeting
Department of Public Safety
Waterbury, VT**

April Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Bob Costantino, Agency of Human Services
Barb Neil, Executive Director 911 Board
Barbara Bloom, Vermont School Counselors
Association
Dan Batsie, VT Department of Health EMS
Leo Nadeau, Public Representative
Patrick McManamon, VT Department of Motor
Vehicles
Rob Evans, Agency of Education
William Brown, Division of Fire Safety

On Phone:

Steve Earley, Chair
Tony Facos, Vermont Chiefs of Police
Winton Goodrich, VT Superintendent
Association

Introductions, acceptance of 1/17 minutes – Rob Evans, Vice Chair

Meeting Notes from the previous meeting were accepted.

Multi-Line Telephone System – Barb Neil, VT 911

Barb Neil of VT 911 presented the history and current status of Multi Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) in Vermont public schools. The law requires that 911 calls from schools have three identifiers; a unique telephone number, the address of the building and the specific room in the building where the call originates. In 2016, all public schools were assessed for compliance after the first offering of grant support from the legislature. The school response participation was 89%, however slightly half of these schools were in compliance with the three identifiers. Another Request For Grant support was offered and 71 schools applied for assistance. Barb is to report to the legislature the current statistics on compliance and she will share this report with the VSCPT in the near future.

Discussion: Wireless phones are more apt to be used in an emergency. Not all schools have reception and cell phone information may vary according to GPS technology. The first question 911 asks is, “What is your location?” and unclear communication disrupts response time at this point. MLTS are expensive and progress is understandably slow.

Sandy Hook Elementary Conference – Tony Facos, Vermont Chiefs of Police

Montpelier Police Department Chief Tony Facos reported on the conference on Sandy Hook Elementary School, Lessons Learned Action Report and Training. Tony addressed four important issues:

- a) Speed is of the essence
- b) Police may enter a building without waiting for support
- c) Traffic will cause congestion and efficient traffic planning is crucial
- d) Reunification planning for grieving parents need a special are crucial

Tony believes police and EMS need to plan and work together on “hot/warm zone” communication and response.

Status Updates – Rob Evans, Vice Chair

- **School District Safety meetings**

Rob gave an update on School District safety meetings and response exercises that are being conducted around the state. Rob and Emily would like EMS and Fire Safety representatives to invite them to any fall conferences to discuss school safety planning.

Home Visit Template

Home Visit Checklist was accepted with some consolidation and Rob will place it into the regular templates for public use. Most important in this procedure is to **check with local law enforcement prior** to a visit. This will be put in boldface on the response form. Also added to the list is to make contact with the Department of Children and Families when visiting.

Supervisory Union Safety Planning Checklist

Supervisory Union Safety Planning Checklist is complete and accepted. (Motion: Win Goodrich). The document is a very good outline for supervisory unions to use in planning all phases of school safety. This outline will be available online for September 2017 School Safety Month.

Discussion: The national guidelines and the school safety checklists for classrooms are now using “Lock Down” and “Lock Out” for specific threats. This is a change from our traditional Classroom Crisis Commands “Secure the Building” and “Clear the Halls”. Our publications on school safety will use the new national guidelines, however it was pointed out that many other responses co-exist although their procedures differ; ex. “Run, Hide, Fight” and A.L.I.C.E. The consensus the group is **Training Is The Key**. Well trained faculties will keep student safe and protected during and after emergency responses.

VSCPT Video

The VSCPT Video is complete. Thanks go out to Rob and Emily, and they would like more response personnel included on the video.

Future School Safety Conferences

Vermont Technical College is dropping out as a host site and we will need to request more school building access for training. Tony will check with the high school in Montpelier for the July 12th training. Win suggested the conference room at VISBIT which was built to accommodate large groups and media presentations. We will publish a list of training topics, sites and dates on the school safety website.

National Preparedness Month

National School Preparedness Month is September 2017. Rob read a draft proclamation which he believes will be signed and published by Governor Scott as schools open in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon

Next meeting, May 16th, 2017

Parking lot

Best Practices for dealing with trauma following a disaster and untimely death recovery best practices (presentation by Charlotte and Margaret at May meeting)

Opiate Crisis Guidance

Statewide Relocation and Reunification Template and MOU between schools and Reunification Facilities (Rob, Mary Ellen, Dan, Emily H., Leo, Mark)

Video Acceptable Use Policy (Rob, Win, Mark, & Emily S.)

ICS Training Plan – reintroduction at SU level

Tactical EMS and how school medical staff can get involved in the process

- Liability Insurance for schools serving as non-arc shelters (Mark)
- American Red Cross MCI course