



SCHOOL SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 10/10/2013

Meeting Location: SDE – State Education Resource Center

Approval: 10/17/2013

Recorded By: Jason Crisco

1 ATTENDANCE

Name	Title	Department/Location	Present
Donald J. DeFronzo	Commissioner	DAS	Y
Stefan Pryor	Commissioner	SDE	N
Pasquale J. Salemi	Deputy Commissioner	DCS	N
William Shea	Deputy Commissioner	DESPP	Y
John Woodmansee	Education Consultant		Y
Richard E. Morris	Dir. Public Safety & Emergency		Y
Frank J. Costello	Structural Engineer		Y
Ronald Jakubowski	Former Asst. Superintendent of Schools for Operations and Facilities		Y
Steven Waznia	Firefighter		N
Adam Byington	Police Officer		Y
Irene Roman	Public School teacher		N

2 MEETING LOCATION

Building: State Education Resource Center

Room:

3 MEETING START

Meeting Schedule Start: 5:30pm

Meeting Actual Start: 5:36pm

4 AGENDA

- Opening Remarks by Chair
 - Chairman DeFronzo welcomed everyone to the SSIC regular meeting and gave a brief overview of the agenda.
- Approval of August 8th Minutes
 - Chairman DeFronzo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Commissioner Shea indicated an error in paragraph 2 of page 2, which was corrected. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ron Jakubowski and seconded Richard Morris. The minutes were then approved with the minor correction.
- Review of Informational Sessions
 - SSIC staff gave a brief overview of each of the last four Informational Sessions, highlighting important issues that came up during the process.
- Next Steps in Framing the Report

- Chairman DeFronzo gave a brief overview of an intended framework for the infrastructure standards and clarified the legislative charge and intent of the SSIC. The chairman stated that, implicit in our legislative charge, is the assumption that schools are vulnerable systems and that we need to develop infrastructure standards to help protect them. The Council members agreed with this assessment.
 1. There is a need for uniform standards, but recognition for flexibility.
 2. A need to take an all hazards approach.
 3. Discussion of different levels of standards for new construction, retrofitting and existing construction.
- Richard Morris asked how the funding formula for the School Security Grant Program is calculated. An answer was provided by SSIC staff and other members of the Council.
- The Council then discussed how best to meet a quantifiable standard when assessing schools. It was agreed that minimums must be met in order to receive state funding. A baseline number was discussed, based upon the IRVS for Schools assessment tool. It is the intent of the SSIC that the baseline provided applies to all schools. A minimal standard must be set for all state school construction projects. State funding will not be provided to school districts that do not meet the threshold.
 1. Reasonable infrastructure improvements were discussed to ensure that schools don't focus too much on one area, neglecting others. This will be discussed further as the Council moves forward
 2. A unified assessment tool was also discussed. In order to generate unified standards, a unified assessment tool will be needed. This will remain an ongoing discussion.
 3. SSIC agreed that school security assessments must be conducted by the appropriate personal. It was agreed that this be made a requirement for all assessments.
- SSIC staff gave a brief overview of the Building and Infrastructure Protection Series (BIPS), NCEF Checklist and IRVS for Schools assessment tool.
 - This presentation generated a great deal of discussion and questions. SSIC staff is currently working on answering these.
 - The IRVS assessment tool can be conducted in 2-3 hours and is available at no charge from the Federal Government.
- During the discussion, the SSIC determined that there is a great deal of overlap concerning school security, but it's important that the legislative charge of the SSIC to develop school construction infrastructure standards be met. It was agreed that as the SSIC moves forward, issues that are procedural or operational, that do not fall under their purview, would be separated and possibly added to an addendum at the end of their recommendations.
- Chairman DeFronzo asked the Council members if there are any particular requirements that should be specifically considered.
 - It was determined that closed circuit television systems/ (CCTs), door locks and visible entryways and exits were among the most important requirements to consider.
- Topics to be addressed at the next meeting

- SSIC staff will put together a more comprehensive presentation regarding assessments, standards created by other states and establishment of a framework for the standards
- Criteria for the framework may include, but not limited to; Site, Architecture, Building Enclosure, Structure, Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing, Fire Protection Systems, Security, Cyber/Communications Infrastructure and Continuity of operations.
- The Council will further discuss the most important requirements determined by its members

- Time, Date & Location of Next Meeting
 - State Education Resource Building
 - 25 Industrial Park, Middletown, CT
 - 5:30pm to 7:30pm

- Adjournment

5 MEETING END

Meeting Schedule End: 7:30pm

Meeting Actual End: 8:15pm