

## School & Campus Safety Task Force Meeting

June 20, 2013

### **Task Force Members Present:**

The Honorable Marla Graff Decker  
The Honorable Laura Fornash  
The Honorable Bill Hazel, M.D.  
The Honorable Kenneth Cuccinelli  
The Honorable Joseph Yost  
The Honorable George Barker  
Patricia Wright, Ed.D.  
Donna Michaelis  
Garth Wheeler  
Mark Gooch  
Michael Cline  
Marissa Levine, M.D. (for Maureen Dempsey, M.D.)  
Peter Blake  
Sarah Gross  
Deborah Pettit, Ph.D.  
Dianne Smith  
Regina Blackwell Brown  
Meg Gruber  
Judy Lynch, Ph.D.  
Charles Klink  
Chief Don Challis  
Captain Steve Carey  
Gene Deisinger, Ph.D.  
Alexa Rennie

The meeting was called to order at 1:00PM by Secretary Decker.

The minutes from the January 31, 2013 Task Force meeting were approved as written. Motion by Mark Gooch, seconded by Meg Gruber. The motion passed unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Amy Atkinson, Executive Director of the Commission on Youth, on the *Collection of Evidence-Based Practices for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition* (published as House Document 7-2013) (see handouts provided in packet). The Collection summarizes current research on those mental health treatments that have been proven to be effective in treating children and adolescents. The Collection is intended for parents, caregivers, service providers and others seeking current research on evidence-based mental health practices for youth. The Collection was compiled by the Commission on Youth with the

assistance of an Advisory Group of experts pursuant to SJR 99 (2002). The Collection was originally published as House Document 9 and presented to the Governor and the 2003 General Assembly.

To ensure the information remained current and reached the intended audience, the 2003 General Assembly passed SJR 358, which requires the Commission to update the Collection biennially. The Secretaries of Health and Human Resources, Public Safety, and Education, along with the Advisory Group, were requested to assist the Commission in updating the Collection, as were various state and local agencies. The Collection is available on the Commission on Youth website.

The next item on the agenda was the **Education and Public Safety Workgroup Joint Recommendation**. Secretary Fornash explained this recommendation came out of the March 4, 2013 joint meeting of the two workgroups. The proposal (ED-PS 01) recommends that law enforcement officers complete the School Resource Officer (SRO) training curriculum provided by either the VCSS or equivalent training provided through their local departments prior to assignment as an SRO, or within 12 months of being assigned to the position.

A motion was made by Secretary Fornash that the Task Force approve the recommendation as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the **Education Workgroup Recommendations**. Secretary Fornash called on Mary Savage to explain the two recommendations submitted by SCHEV (see handouts provided in packet). Both recommendations passed the Education Workgroup on May 30, 2013.

The first recommendation was that a \$2 million appropriation be made annually to establish a competitive grant program to support and sustain crime prevention and campus safety programs and initiatives at public higher education institutions in Virginia. Garth Wheeler noted that the statement in the Recommendation Summary is untrue that indicates 'campus security departments are unable to access vital training from the Department of Criminal Justice Services'. It was agreed this statement would be removed from the recommendation.

The second recommendation was that an appropriation be made in the amount of \$310,000 to VDEM to facilitate the development and sustainment of the Campus Community Emergency Response Team (C-CERT) program on all public higher education institution campuses in Virginia, and to expand the availability of campus CERT training to all seven VDEM regions.

A motion was made that the Task Force approve both recommendations as written, with the exception of the change to the first recommendation regarding DCJS. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the **Mental Health Workgroup Recommendations** (see handouts provided in packet). Attorney General Kenneth Cuccinelli explained the first recommendation would amend the *Code of Virginia* to require a minimum 24-hour period and a

maximum 72-hour period of temporary detention for adults with mental illness who are involved in the involuntary admission process. The Fiscal Impact of this recommendation would be between \$1.2 and \$1.8 million. This recommendation passed the Mental Health Workgroup on March 28.

A motion was made that the Task Force approve the recommendation as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The last item on the agenda was the **Public Safety Workgroup Recommendations** (see handouts provided in packet). Donna Michaelis provided a brief overview and updates related to Recommendation Numbers PS-17, PS-18 and PS-19.

PS-17 directs the Virginia Center for School Safety (VCSS) to host a Bullying Prevention Forum, a National School Safety Summit, and a School Safety & Technology Vendor Fair. The Fiscal Impact of this proposal would be \$50,000.

PS-18 directs the VCSS to host Mental Health 101 Training and School Safety Audit Team Training. The Fiscal Impact of this proposal would be \$50,000.

PS-19 directs the VCSS to produce and disseminate best practices information to school divisions via conferences, trainings and specialized forums; to review and update the *Educator's Guide to Conducting Emergency Drills*; and to review and update the Juvenile Law Handbook. In addition, PS-19 recommends the recommendations as set forth in *HJR 122 Final Report: Study on Campus Safety* be reviewed to review strategies for implementation of relevant recommendations to enhance school or campus safety; and that the 2004 Secure Virginia Panel recommendations be reviewed and evaluated to determine relevancy of recommendations for school safety. The Fiscal Impact of this entire proposal would be \$25,000.

Motions were made that the Task Force approve all three recommendations as written. The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Next Steps**

Per Secretary Decker, three more full Task Force meetings are scheduled for July 31, August 13 and September 23 in the West Reading Room of the Patrick Henry Building. Each meeting will be scheduled from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM.

By September, the work of the Task Force should be wrapping up, and there should be a plan in place for the future of the Task Force.

The meeting concluded at 2:30 PM.