

Hardening Approaches Sub-committee

December 17, 2018 3:00 pm

Room 105 Educational Services Center

3:00-3:05 Summary of 11/26 topics covered and recommendations

There was a brief recap of the discussion regarding building access and security features. The group agreed that it would be best to continue discussing these protections as they relate to the overall practices and systems for safety. A suggestion was made to keep in mind other community facilities and private schools in the area which are implementing such systems. These could serve as a model for developing physical safety measures in ICCSD buildings.

3:05-3:20 Risk Assessment Overview, 3:20-3:45 Threat Assessment Overview:

A discussion of risk assessment, and how this would look in the K-12 setting, included the suggestion that an outside entity (possibly community police departments) would be beneficial in conducting assessment, as they will have a different lens and specific focus, whereas regular building residents tend to see “around” some things. The discussion included what types of potential safety and/or security aspects are involved in risk assessment. It was shared that risk assessment typically covers all physical aspects of a facility (grounds, storage of chemicals, lighting, landscaping, cameras, locks, etc., as opposed to threat assessment, which looks at potential situations based on grievances, suspicious or concerning behaviors, or veiled threats of harm. It was commented that risk assessment should be reviewed regularly, such as with a fidelity checklist, in combination with annual assessments. Discussion that this is more of a snapshot than a fluid process, and would best work in conjunction with something like threat assessment or SROs. A decision to delay further investigation of Threat Assessment was made, as several committee members plan to attend the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals winter conference in February, and will be able to share out what was learned. The first day of the conference is specifically focusing on the threat assessment model in the K-12 setting.

3:45-4:00 Recommendations and Next Steps:

- The committee agreed that further development of risk assessment would be beneficial as a practice, in addition to other necessary security/safety interventions and processes. They envision an outside entity conducting a risk assessment annually. Each trimester, principals could conduct a risk assessment to ensure procedures are being implemented. (Example: entry process and greeting to visitors)
- The committee would like more information about the current lockset systems on the doors. There was a concern expressed about the ability to lock doors during a crisis. This could be a staff training issue. The committee wondered if a deadbolt lock could be utilized instead. More information is needed from the fire department/physical plant.