Date:

Time:

9/18/2024

3:00 - 5:00 PM

# CYBHWG School-based Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention (SBBHSP) subgroup

Christian Stark, OSPI

Leads: Representative My-Linh Thai

**Professional Members** Sinuon Hem Devyna Aguon **Daniel Smith Renton School District** Asia Pacific Cultural Center Community Health Plan of WA Alice Amaya Megan Howard Joseph Soliz  $\boxtimes$ **OESD 114** Pasco School District **Granger School District** Gina Cabiddu **Delaney Knottnerus** Chetan Soni Kids Mental Health WA King County WA Youth Alliance Phyllis M. Cavens, MD Joe Neigel Michelle Sorensen  $\boxtimes$  $\boxtimes$ Child & Adolescent Clinic Monroe School District **Richland School District** David Crump Jill Patnode **Tabby Stokes** Kaiser Permanente Spokane Public Schools Vancouver Public Schools Elise Petosa Jodie DesBiens Gwen Loosmore  $\boxtimes$ WA Association of School Social  $\boxtimes$ **NWESD 189 WA State PTA** Workers Jeannie Dodd Megan Reibel & Rafaela Steen Mabel Thackeray **Burlington School District UW Forefront Suicide Prevention** North Thurston Public Schools Erin Drury Nolita Reynolds Brook Veio  $\boxtimes$  $\boxtimes$ WA School-based Health Alliance **Catholic Community Services** Carelon Behavioral Health Renee' Schoening Brooke Fox  $\boxtimes$ Frank Wagner Elementary School Whitworth University **Britnee Harvey** Rayann Silva  $\boxtimes$ П **UW SMART Center** Shine Light on Depression **Youth Members** Eliasib Alvarado ☐ Zoe (Crow) Barnett Rowan Guerrero Taanvi Arekapudi ☐ Payton Frank ☐ Kei Gregson (Lead) Parent/Guardian/Family Members Valerie Denney □ Richelle Madigan **Byron Smith** ☐ Arnie Martinez Shawnda Hicks (Lead) Yahaira Nava Danielle Ouellette Brandi Kingston

Staff: Diane Stead | OSPI

Agenda Items	Lead
Welcome + Announcements  Fall Community Engagement Forums, register today!  East Side: October 23, 2024 – Registration Link  • Education Service District 123 in Pasco, WA  • Wednesday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup>   2:30-4:30pm  West Side: November 8, 2024 – Registration Link  • Education Service District 113 in Tumwater, WA  • Friday, November 8 <sup>th</sup>   2:30-4:30pm	
Fall schedule changes We won't have an October Zoom meeting	
Final Recommendation Survey	
<ul> <li>If you're a member of our group, you got an email with information about the recommendation survey ~noon on Friday, 9/20</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>There is one page for every proposal. We would like you to rank the 7 'new' recommendations in order of priority. The Mental Health Literacy proposal is a 'legacy' item, just need a 'Yes/No' support vote on that item to advance it.</li> </ul>	
We recorded thi meeting so members can review for information	Christian Stant. OSDI
<ul> <li>Drop-in hours on Monday (4:30-6p) on Zoom if you have questions about the survey.</li> </ul>	Christian Stark, OSPI  Representative My-Linh Thai, 41 <sup>st</sup> Legislative District
<ul> <li>Stipend for filling out the survey (roughly 1 hour) for members with lived experience.</li> </ul>	Legislative District
Legislative Session Preview, Rep. Thai	
Not everyone is familiar with the legislative process.	
<ul> <li>Next session is 105 days (long session). That will be the session for budget decisions.</li> </ul>	
Because the main responsibility is funding, especially for education and health services. States have to balance the budget – state governments do acquire debt. Every quarterly budget forecast is available to the public. This includes all income sources and budget items. Education funding is constitutionally guaranteed. The most recent budget forecasts have not been very positive. We are projecting a \$3m – 1B shortfall.  We need a clear vision and understanding of how we can prioritize.	
<ul> <li>We need a clear vision and understanding of how we can prioritize funding.</li> </ul>	
Q: Is the budget forecast deficit a 2-year or one year?	
A: 2 year  Q: taking into account initiatives?	
A:	
Q: Does the budget include special education?	

A: The funding that we have done in the last session is the same, this is without any additional funds. We plan to maintain funding without adding funding, but we can change or shift funds. During the really hard times, there were very difficult conversations about maintaining services. We have not fully funded Special Education. We have asked OSPI for data on how much we need to fully fund Special Education. We do not know if we have the additional funds needed yet.

The next revenue forecast will be on November 20. <a href="https://erfc.wa.gov/forecasts/revenue-forecast">https://erfc.wa.gov/forecasts/revenue-forecast</a>

**Recommendation Proposal #1:** Strengthening Statewide Capacity See slide deck in meeting materials

#### Discussion:

One of the challenges this proposal will need to overcome is the fact that our behavioral health experts at DOH and HCA report to different elected than OSPI. So, this would have to include a mandate for collaboration between these state institutions.

In addition, juvenile justice and Child Protective Services exist in yet another silo.

What does "holding OSPI accountable" mean/look like?

Accountability is a great idea, but we don't seem to be able to hold ourselves accountable when we haven't fully funded special education. Again, the question is, what does OSPI accountability look like?

The proposal is asking for the state to designate a lead agency, OSPI, to provide direction and accountability.

This would require OSPI, in partnership with state, regional, and local entities, to:

- Define minimum expectations for each of the components of a comprehensive set of school behavioral health supports
- Establish strategic direction and goals for statewide programming to strengthen the capacity of schools to implement to implement supports and reduce system barriers
- Be accountable for ensuring schools have the information and resources they need to meet student behavioral health needs

What if the legislature does not fund the necessary levels to meet student behavioral health needs? Who is accountable then? Accountability is meaningless when we keep having to file lawsuits that don't lead to fully funding basic education. When children aren't provided with the educational supports they need, it frequently leads to behavioral health challenges -- depression, dropping out, addiction are all consequences of not fully funding special

The playbook and training center make a lot of sense. And I like the idea of an accountability focus for OSPI, we just need to have a clear idea and plan on how that works. I'm not seeing it in the presentation today

**Devyna Aguon**, Renton School District **Mabel Thackeray**, North Thurston Public Schools

**Tawni Barlow**, Medical Lake School District **Eric Bruns**, UW SMART Center

**Recommendation Proposal #2:** Expand Workforce for Student Well-being Program *See slide deck in meeting materials* 

We recruit students with diversity goals and financial need who otherwise would be unlikely to attend graduate school.

### www.wswinitiative.org

**Recommendation Proposal #3:** Improve ratio of Social Workers to students in WA schools.

See slide deck in meeting materials

Wondering if the prototypical percentage increase needed is low. 1:250 vs. 1:40,000 seems like more than 93%.

**Recommendation Proposal #4:** Improve training on BH skills and staffing for school staff

See slide deck in meeting materials

I really appreciate the advocacy and awareness of the important role of School Social Work and have firsthand experience with these statistics. There are highly trained SSW who unfortunately are not being hired due to a lack of available positions. A multi-disciplinary approach is critical for MTSS implementation.

We do need everyone — mental health and safety belongs to everyone!! In school, home and community!

Assume the State will fund this ask, do we have adequate workforce to fill these positions?

How do we keep these workers within schools? I think we train a lot of people, and they get their feet wet in schools, but then they move on to higher paying jobs in the private sector

Should we start with the administrators first?

We have found that community-based MH workers often moved to school-based jobs due to the stability, quality of life and alignment of their hours and calendars with their own children's school schedule!

Yes- that's part of why I left community mental health and came to a school-based job.)

Who are well-trained and qualified workers? We need to promote expertise and more importantly, provide funding.

https://wswinitiative.org/

Jenn Stuber, UW SMART Center Rachel Barrett, UW SMART Center

Recommendation Proposal #5: Funding for School Districts for Screening, Recognition, & Response to Emotional & Behavioral Distress in students Question: which way of funding is more likely to be continued year over year? Grants seem to be time limited and lead to temporary programs instead of sustained programs. Q: When they speak of training are they referring to in-person training or virtual? A: not clear Recommendation Proposal #6: School BH Staffing Landscape Assessment So then why are larger districts like Seattle, consolidating elementary schools to be able to provide these supportive staff? Christian Stark, OSPI Q: Who will do the landscape assessment? A: We will try to get a budget for the programs. There are several different types of organizations that could be tasked by the legislature to do this work. What does accountability mean? It would be helpful to get specifics to inform the decision. Group members can make proposals as far as policy. We can have Office of Financial Management pull together a fiscal note. Budget should not determine whether we ask or not. Recommendation Proposal #7: AESD BH SAP Program Expansion Are conduct screenings part of developing behavior intervention plans? Yes, screenings are conducted by the SMART Center. Do you have any idea of which students are not being served by this program? Are there students not being referred that might be? We create a student concern support team. That team uses a lot of different strategies to identify students in need who could benefit from the program. We Erin Wick, Education Service District 113 also work with the staff so they know what symptoms to look for so they can Jodie Desbiens, Education Service District provide a referral. Is that like a sight intervention team? (SIT meetings) Eric Bruns, UW SMART Center What percentage of districts are participating? Roughly 6% Is there space in your data collection for those stories Here's a representative quote from a school staff: " "Since [the SAP] joined our school [they] have been a strong advocate for the kids here at the high school and a

major support. Students look for them all the time and has been beyond helpful to

the counseling staff."

Another: ""...They make relationships with students, provide coping skills, and support healthy choices in ways that other staff often cannot." Here are some BHSAP quotes from students: I always come to school on group days because I like to know that I will have a break from class to talk about what's bothering me. I learned what are good coping skills to handle my anger and frustration, and how to control it when I want to blurt things out in class. I don't get in trouble as much at school now. Groups helped me feel more confident and know what to do when I'm feeling stressed out. I'm taking better care of myself, and I actually go out and do things instead of sitting on my phone all day. I liked talking to other people who were experiencing the same things as me. The program helped me a lot in certain ways that I don't know how to explain. I'm not very good at talking to people about what is going on with me or why I'm upset. But after going through the program, I've been able to talk to people about how I feel and what's going on with me a lot more. Would Seattle Public Schools be ONE site? What does this cost per school? What would it take to be available statewide? Will have to come back with the costs. Am I right this is more of a middle and high school program? We are implementing this model at all level K-12 but the majority of the sites are MS and HS. **Recommendation Proposal #8:** Mental Health Literacy Coordinator extension www.mentalhealthinstruction.org In my engagement with students during the interim, because they didn't know of Todd Crooks, Chad's Legacy Project this work at the state level, with young people asking for it, as well as educators. Jodie Buntain-Ricklefs, UW SMART Center At this point we seem to be talking about a 6-hour, 8-1/2-month student assistance I am still concerned (like school lunches) what about the other missing times and access? OSPI 2025 Budget Request: Statewide Support for Student Mental & Behavioral Health OSPI Behavioral Health Budget Request: https://ospi.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/2024-09/p17-2025-statewide-support-Misha Cherniske, Government Relations, student-mental-and-behavioral-health.pdf OSPI All OSPI Budget Requests for 2025: https://ospi.k12.wa.us/policyfunding/legislative-priorities/legislative-budget-requests Why is fully funding special education not part of OSPI's request?

https://ospi.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/2024-09/p13-2025-fully-funding-equitable-high-quality-services-all-students-disabilities 0.pdf	
Meeting Adjourned	

## Attendees:

## **State Agency & CYBHWG Staff:**

Bridget Underdahl, OSPI Brisa Sanchez Cornejo, OSPI Brittany Mullins, WA State Medicaid Cindi Wiek, HCA DeeSha Connor, DOH Delika Steele, OIC Ella DeVerse, DCYF Enos Mbajah, HCA Erika Rodriguez, OSPI Francesca Matias, OSPI Jason McGill, WA HCA/Medicaid Julia Kember, Behavioral Health Catalyst Kerry Bloomquist, OSPI Meghan Hopkins, WA DSHS DDA Misha Cherniske, OSPI RJ Monton, OSPI Rose Spidell, DDA Stacey Bushaw, HCA Tammy Bolen, OSPI

### **State Legislators & Staff:**

Rep. Carolyn Eslick, 39th District

Todd Slettvet, WA HCA-Medicaid

## **Public Attendees:**

C072230

Adam Davis
Chelsea Stone, CHPW/CHNW
Kourteney Johnson, Newport Healthcare
Lula Sloans
Matt Crichton
Meredith Piehowski
Michelle Wilright
Patrick
Reid Saaris
Roz Thompson, AWSP
Shelley Seslar, NCESD
Tessa Gooding, Newport Healthcare
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