



August 2016

WSSCA Newsletter

The "news you can use " periodical for Wisconsin's school safety and security professionals

We open this month's newsletter with a very timely piece from WSSCA Board member, Melissa Nettesheim. Melissa, the Manager of Buildings and Grounds for the Wauwatosa School District (my wife's alma mater!), provides great advice about one of the most essential components of a School Safety and Security Plan/EOP – getting the staff on board. Ed

How to Gain Support from Staff

When building upon a Safety and Security Plan a key component is the support and guidance of your staff. There are a multitude of resources available to help build a Safety and Security Plan and many tools in the "tool box," but one of your most vital tools is the staff. It is important to include them in every aspect of your Safety and Security Plan. Below are some outlined points when trying to build the support of your staff to enhance your overall Safety and Security Plan.

Motivate

Utilize the "motivation" piece to build initial support and start the communication portion about safety and security. The more involved and knowledgeable staff feel about the overall plan, the more this will carry over to students and the staff's perception of the building's security.

Tools to Motivate staff:

Trainings

Drills

Unique scenario table top exercises

Participate

Encourage participation from staff. Allow staff the opportunity to have

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their voices heard and their ideas taken into consideration and carried forward.

Tools to encourage participation:

• Create building safety committees which promote communication from building to building and have the group assign one or two leaders who can bring those ideas back to an overall safety committee. These same leaders could bring information and communication/feedback from the Safety and Security Committee back to building levels (The possibilities are endless with the committee groups).

• Surveys to staff and students are a great asset and help focus energy on areas that rank lower than others.

• Newsletters and emails to staff about organizational safety and security updates

Activate

Adding to the physical and visual security can gain support from staff.

The ability to see, hear or touch the changes being made can assist in the overall safety and security plan. In some circumstances, believing is seeing, if additional support is provided through the use of visual or physical changes to the environment, these changes can play a large impact on overall support.

Tools to activate the safety and security plan:

• Security features of building such as cameras, security entrance points, locked doors, building security.

• Accessibility to plans digitally and via hard copy; there are many programs available that allow safety and security plans to be uploaded digitally and securely downloaded on a variety of devices.

The plan would be available to any staff member at any location throughout the organization.

Looking for more information on bolstering your EOP and Threat Assessment Practices? The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Healthy Students is offering a webinar series of one-hour presentations I think will be of value to many of us in WSSCA. Take time to read the descriptions, and give some serious thought to partaking of one or more of these opportunities. Ed

EOP Planning Webinar Series Scheduled

Summer is an important time of the year for educators to participate in professional development opportunities, and during July – September, the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center is pleased to offer two Webinar series for state and local practitioners in school and institutions of higher education (IHE) emergency management on key topics in the field.

The EOP Planning Webinar Series will include four Webinar events on topics fundamental to developing a high-quality school and higher education emergency operations plan.

(Editor's note: I omitted one of the webinars from this listing as it occurred on July 29th.)

These include addressing access and functional needs, developing and implementing a Continuity of Operations (COOP) Annex, forming a school behavioral threat assessment team, and beginning of the academic year considerations for emergency planning. The Adversarial and Human-Caused Threats Webinar Series will include three Webinar events on examples of these threats that school communities may face, and preparedness activities that can help schools and communities prevent, protect, respond and recover from these types of incidents, including bullying, online threats, and sextortion.

Each Webinar in these series will be one hour in length and begin at 2 p.m. Eastern/ 1 p.m. Central/ 12 p.m. Mountain/ 11 a.m. Pacific/ 10 a.m. Alaska/ 9 a.m. Hawaii-Aleutian. For more details on each Webinar, please see below.

You may register for one or both Webinar series at:

<http://remstacenter.org/webinars/Registration1.aspx?webinarid=1075>

You will receive a confirmation email upon completion of the registration process. If you have any questions about either the EOP Planning or Adversarial and Human-Caused Threats Webinar series, please feel free to contact the REMS TA Center at info@remstacenter.org or 1-855-781-REMS [7367].

Consider joining the Community of Practice

(<http://www.rems.ed.gov/COP/Account/Register.aspx>) and follow the REMS TA Center on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/remstacenter> for up-to-date announcements and details on each Webinar and related Twitter chats that will be hosted on these topics.

Please feel free to share this announcement with your partners in school and higher education emergency management. All Webinars will be available in archive following the event on the REMS TA Center's website at http://rem.ed.gov/TA_Webinars.aspx.

EOP Planning Webinar Series 1-2 p.m. CDT

Friday, August 5: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planning and Developing a COOP Annex

Participants will have an opportunity to learn from Federal- and local-level practitioners on the key considerations for developing a COOP annex, priorities for re-establishing essential functions, and training and exercises to validate the COOP annex and ensure all essential functions are supported. Federal perspectives on COOP planning will be presented by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Friday, August 26: Forming a School Behavioral Threat Assessment Team

Participants will learn how to form a behavioral Threat Assessment Team at the K-12 district or school level. REMS TA Center staff will present some of the elements that make a threat assessment approach effective, and practitioners will discuss how some of these elements have been successfully incorporated and implemented in districts.

Friday, September 16: State and Local Perspectives on Emergency Management Back to School Activities

Presenters from state education agencies and local education agencies will share what they are doing to support districts and schools in developing and revising EOPs as a part of back-to-school professional development activities. REMS TA Center staff will share how we can support state and local education agencies in their efforts to ensure EOPs in their schools and districts remain up-to-date.

Adversarial- and Human-Caused Threats Webinar Series 1-2 p.m. CDT

Friday, August 19: Integrating Bullying Prevention Efforts Into Emergency Management

Planning

This Webinar will provide participants an understanding of the connection between bullying prevention and emergency management planning, including the preparedness missions. Participants will have an opportunity to examine the available resources to measure school climate and learn how to incorporate bullying prevention efforts into emergency management planning.

Friday, September 2: Use of Social Media in School Behavioral Threat Assessments

Presenters will discuss how recent technological advances have created additional considerations for behavioral threat assessments. Topics will include online threats and how they can be identified and addressed.

Friday, September 9: Incorporating Sextortion into School EOP Planning

Presenters from the U.S. Department of Education, REMS TA Center, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention will discuss the latest research and trends related to sextortion of K-12 youth. Topics covered will include analysis of tips from NCMEC's CyberTipLine, details on Federal efforts to address the issue and provide support on the state/local level, and methods K-12 education agencies can use to prevent, respond to and recover from sextortion.



Our WSSCA team has moved over to the Google platform. Adopting Google makes a lot of sense since it simplifies many things for our group. Google will allow our members and our board members quick collaboration and higher productivity along with quick access to information.

Through Google Drive and Google Docs we will create and collaborate together on documents and share them with other Google users. We also plan to leverage the Classroom app to hold webinars and online classes. This technology will allow us to reach more people quicker and easier making more of an impact in our schools.

What does this mean for you as a member?

Well, it means that our board members will be able to help support you more efficiently and will have the ability to share information with you through Google if necessary.

In addition, we have moved all our board members email to Google. When you receive emails from Ed Dorff, our Executive Director they will now come from WSSCA Executive Director instead of WSSCA@WSSCA.org. Please make note of this.

Moving to Google is a huge benefit to our WSSCA community and the people we help serve. We will continue to explore what Google offers so we can continue to collaborate with you and support you as you help keep our kids and schools safe.

As we use new Google features and implement best practices, we will let you know right here in our newsletter. Stay tuned.

WSSCA.org and Members Only Site

Over the next few weeks you will see some enhancements to our WSSCA.org site and our member's only page. We are combining our two sites into one. WSSCA.org is our public site where members and non-members will find information about WSSCA and school safety information.

From WSSCA.org, members will log into their members only site and find additional information for members only and have access to manage their WSSCA membership. These enhancements will also allow us to manage our sites more effectively, by keeping everything on one platform.

Note: I received this email from WSSCA Member Jack Wilfong in Eau Claire. Tru-Lock & Security has been a sponsor of our conferences in the past, but this is not a sales platform, nor is it an endorsement of any particular company. My 30 years as a principal taught me that one of the most annoying, troubling, and potentially dangerous practices in schools has been to be too free and easy with keys. Indeed, when WSSCA performs a security audit, one of our main areas of focus is key control. Good food for thought as we enter a new school year. Ed

Key Control



The least expensive and a very productive action that you can take is to establish a comprehensive key control policy. This policy clearly specifies who receives keys, who authorizes keys, how keys are returned and clearly establishes the responsibilities of receiving keys. Master keys should be severely limited and issued only when absolutely required. We have written scores of key policies for institutions like yours.

When it is determined by you that your facility requires rekeying, we suggest a key that cannot be duplicated without your specific authorization. Unfortunately, if a key can be duplicated, it will be. This is especially true of master keys.

Be sure every key has a unique number so that found keys can be identified and returned to the owner. By the same token, be sure keys are not marked with a location that identifies what the key operates.

Never mark a master key with "Master Key or Master". Identification makes a lost key really vulnerable.

Most security professionals strongly suggest a computer program to control keys. This allows you to readily determine who has keys to what locks (doors, cabinets and equipment). It also enables you to see how many keys are issued to each lock.

Call me, I can help.

Jack Wilfong, WSSCA Member

jack@tru-lock.com

Safety Reminder: Protect Your Hearing

I just came in from mowing the lawn, a chore I actually enjoy. Whenever I use the lawn mower, chainsaw, roto-tiller, leaf blower, or other loud equipment I wear hearing protection. I have ear plugs and have several sets of head-phone type protectors. Sadly, it's a bit late for me as I've been blessed with tinnitus in both ears for most of my adult life due to not protecting my hearing adequately.

According to the CDC, "Occupational hearing loss is one of the most common work-related illnesses in the United States. Approximately 22 million U.S. workers are exposed to hazardous noise levels at work, and an additional 9 million are exposed to ototoxic chemicals. An estimated \$242 million is spent annually on worker's compensation for hearing loss disability."

OSHA tells us that every year almost 30 million people in the US are exposed to workplace-related noise that is considered hazardous, and nearly 25,000 new cases of severe work-related hearing loss are diagnosed every year. As we have learned, there are recommendations regarding noise exposure over time, but on an individual level, how many of us can identify a given decibel level?

Some of the warning signs that an environment may be too noisy for safety include ringing or humming in the ear upon leaving work or an activity; having to raise one's voice to have a face-to-face conversation with a co-worker, and experiencing temporary hearing loss when leaving work or an activity.

Please protect your hearing and be sure that those you supervise are protecting theirs. Now, will someone please turn off those doggone chimes?!



Quotes of the Month

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

– Henry Ford

"Today's public figures can no longer write their own speeches or books, and there is some evidence that they can't read them either."

— Gore Vidal

Borrowed Humor

The head of the TSA resigned after about four years on the job. Here's how much of America heard the news:

"[John Pistole retired today.] His employees toasted him with less than three ounces of champagne. Then they gave him a gold watch, and he had to take it off and put it in a bin." —Conan O'Brien, on Conan.

"He actually stepped down a while ago, but he's been going through security for three and a half years." —Jimmy Fallon, on The Tonight Show.

School Safety Certification

Course Schedule

2016-2017

MODULES	COURSE TITLES	DATES (S)	LOCA
3 & 8	Environmental Health/Safety Compliance School Threats and Vulnerability	Oct 26, 2016	Mad Crown
4&9	Health and Safety Compliance Part C Post Incident Recovery and Planning	March 6-7, 2017	Wis. Kalahar
RE-Cert Refresher	Recertification and Refresher Electives To Be Determined	March 6-7, 2017	Wis. Kalahar
5 & 10	Sound Risk Management Practices Emergency Response Practicum	April 2017	To Be De
1 & 6	Health and Safety Compliance Part A General Aspects of Crisis Management	Oct 2017	To Be De



WSSCA CONTACT INFORMATION

Mr. Edward L. Dorff Executive Director

Telephone: 920-615-3926

Email: wssca@wssca.org

web: wssca.org

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