

Polk County School Safety Alliance Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2014

Present:

Ankeny Community School District

Des Moines Public Schools

Des Moines University

EMC Insurance

Polk County Emergency Management

Saydel Public Schools

West Des Moines Public Schools

Agenda Items	Summary
<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>	To discuss matters of school safety and security and to share best practices
<b>Mission and Vision</b>	<p>To this point the Polk County School Safety Alliance had not developed a mission or vision statement. Mission and vision statements were developed during this meeting, along with goals and objectives. Feedback regarding the mission and vision is appreciated and the statements will be finalized at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Vision:</b> To establish and maintain safe and secure learning environments throughout Polk County</p> <p><b>Mission:</b> Build partnerships that promote best practices for school based emergencies</p> <p><b>Goals &amp; Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimize the impact of incidents on educational institutions and childcare centers throughout Polk County</li><li>• Provide a network for members to communicate with each other as well as with local, regional, state, and federal emergency responders</li><li>• Provide an environment for the coordination and collaboration among local educators and agencies in the development of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies</li><li>• Develop a system of informing and/or providing the membership with professional development opportunities</li><li>• Support development of a multi-year training and exercise program</li></ul>
<b>Outreach and Participation</b>	<p>In order for the alliance to be successful we must reach out to organizations within our communities and encourage participation. The group felt the mission and vision statement would help send the appropriate message.</p> <p>The fear within the group was that organizations which may benefit from the alliance may feel this is strictly a K-12 group. In fact, the group is open to preschools, colleges and universities, as well as any educational settings where children or young adults are in attendance (such as church or large daycare centers). This group is also open to</p>

educational facilities outside of Polk County which may be using Des Moines or Polk County resources. A couple of examples would be organizations in Waukee or Norwalk.

Professional development will include opportunities to form relationships with police and fire, and possibly more large group planning sessions such as the safety summit held in June.

**Getting the Word Out**

Polk County Emergency Management has begun putting information regarding the alliance on their website. It can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/ohpvezp>

**Next Meeting**