

SSSC Meeting Minutes

Call to Order Online	Committee	Date of Meeting
10:02 am by Dr. Katie Tackett (Co-Chair)	School Safety and Security	May 8, 2024
Adjournment	Recorder	Date of Next Meeting
11:03 am by Dr. Eboni Calbow (Co-Chair)	Dr. Autumn Leal	July 17, 2024

Not In Attendance	Hector Campos	Starla Simmons	Dr. William Lasher		
	Thelma Herrera	Tracy Staggs	Derek Trabon		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS	ACTION & OUTCOMES
Announcements/Quick Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A quorum was confirmed and the meeting was brought to order by Dr. Tackett at 10:02 am; Meeting recorded on Zoom. Dr. Calbow took over Co-Chairing committee at 10:45am. Introductions and welcoming of new members No special guests are present today 	
TODAY'S ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS	ACTION & OUTCOMES
Citizen Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no citizen comments 	
Action Items for Consideration by Consent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First motion made by Kathy Armenta and second motion made by Dr. Maedgen to approve minutes from October 11, 2023. A vote was cast and the motion passed unanimously. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion passed
Reports and Discussion Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Leal presented a report on the State of the Charter School System. A Texas map was shared that visualizes all of the campuses around the state. Three new campuses will open up next school year in the following cities: Arlington, Forney, and Houston. The purpose of the committee is to participate in the development and implementation of the emergency operation plans (for both districts) and to provide input into campus safety planning and the security audits. Both districts passed at 100% compliance on the annual Emergency Operations Plan audit that is conducted yearly. We were one of the few districts who passed on the first submission. The large scale school safety audit that is due every 3 years will be due in September 2025. The committee will begin conducting this safety audit during the 2024-2025 school year well in advance of the due date. Both districts are now subject to "District Vulnerability Assessments" (DVA) once every 4 years on a random basis. These are conducted by Texas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports were discussed.



	<p>Education Agency's Office of School Safety, and field agents come on site and spend a week conducting a review of all our safety documentation, training documentation, procedures, etc. The purpose of the DVA is to evaluate the implementation of district safety planning. This safety committee must review the results of the DVA once it is conducted (once every 4 years).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Leal reviewed information about the Southwest Texas Fusion Center and how we receive information from the fusion center. Dr. Leal has been trained as a Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) with the fusion center.• Two Knox boxes were installed at UT Elementary. New door numberings that meet International Fire Code were installed at UT Elementary.	
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- Both districts' emergency operations plans were audited by the Texas School Safety Center and both audits were 100% compliant.
- Both districts received intruder detection audits and were 100% compliant at all three schools which were randomly audited by Texas Education Agency. We have had a total of three intruder detection audits this school year.
- Officer Guardiola, the UT police officer at UT Elementary School provided an update on school safety at the campus. He monitors 18 cameras and also monitors student drop-offs in the morning and student pick-ups in the afternoons. A total of 4 criminal trespass warnings have been issued this school year for homeless individuals. A police safety officer from UT also does a night watch and walks the campus at night.
- The committee reviewed the results of both Maintenance Checks that were completed on 10/9/23 and 3/15/24. Progress was made on the second maintenance facility check with 100% compliance in all areas.
- Jenny Davis provided an update on school finance as it pertains to school safety. For UT Elementary School, the 2024-2025 school safety budget will be just shy of \$250,000. Of this funding only \$17,500 or 7% is recurring annually under the foundation school program. The other 93% is onetime funding through grants.
- Under the Foundation School Program each school district is entitled to an annual allotment from the state – The School Safety Allotment. The formula is \$15,000 per campus plus \$10 per student in average daily attendance. For UTES this about is about \$17,500.
- UTES was awarded \$200,000 under the School Safety Standards Formula Grant to implement the newly published school safety standards for required for our facility. As you recall those included installation of the Knox boxes on campus, silent panic alert technology, exterior door numbering and other facility upgrades. Once those standards were met, we are allowed to spend the funds on other general school safety items. After this fiscal year closes, we will have approximately \$75,000 remaining to spend by August 31, 2025.
- This spring a new Safety and Facilities Grant was published that entitles UT Elementary School to \$150,000. We've applied for this grant and are awaiting the award. This grant is similar to the School Safety Standards grant as it will allow us to spend the funding on general safety items since we are in compliance with the new safety standards.
- Overall, the 3 sources of funding will support the cost of our school officer, a portion of our safety director, the Silent panic alert system, and our security monitoring system. We've also budgeted for other facility improvements that may arise like the repair of doors, fencing, and windows.
- For UT Charter School the 2024-2025 school safety budget will be approximately \$470,000. Of this funding \$319,690 or 68% is recurring annually under the foundation school program. The other 32% is onetime funding through SAFE Cycle II Grant. The school safety allotment under the foundation



school program is much larger than the UTES allotment because the funding is based on \$15,000 per campus and the charter school has several campuses. These sources will fund 4 positions that support both UT Elementary School and UT Charter School. Part of the school safety director, our operations specialist. The school social work coordinator and a licensed specialist in school psychology. The budget also includes a social emotional learning program and restorative discipline training.

- Dr. Whetstone updated the committee on the status of ongoing weekly door audits across the charter system. All school campuses are complying with the weekly audits and keeping the doors locked and in good operating condition.
- Any door issues such as mechanical issues are being immediately reported to UT Facilities for issues with UTES doors. UT-UCS classroom doors have consistently been locked and in good operating condition.
- All of the weekly door audit data was also reviewed for UT Charter School.
- Campus safety updates were discussed across both districts. Campuses have demonstrated 100% compliance on all exterior door audits.
- Caris Vollentine provided a comprehensive update on the Total Behavioral Threat Assessments which have been completed across the district. There have been 8 total behavioral threats thus far this school year among the charter school system. Each case receives a case management plan and parents are kept highly informed in all cases.
- All campuses have completed law enforcement walk throughs with first responders and the Department of Public Safety.
- The Good Cause Exception progress data was reviewed at length. The University of Texas Charter School has completed all of the required drills and action after reviews as required. All classroom and school exterior doors are audited at least once per week at all schools. A
- Andrea Menchaca provided an updated on student and staff mental health and well-being initiatives.
- The next committee meeting is July 17, 2024 and this will be a hybrid meeting (in person and zoom).
- Dr. Calbow asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Leal made a first motion and Dr. Maedgen seconded. A vote was taken and the motion to adjourn passed.



Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting Adjourned at 11:03 am by Dr. Calbow	
Meeting Recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A recording of the meeting is available.	

