

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

Date: 12/1/2023  
Time: 9am-10:30am

**Leads:** Representative My-Linh Thai, Christian Stark, OSPI [interim]

Members			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Representative My-Linh Thai, Co-Chair (41 <sup>st</sup> Legislative District)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Allen (Tacoma Pierce County Health Department)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Addy Wissel (Washington School Counselors Association (WSCA))	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth DiPrete (Parent)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ashley Mangum (Mary Bridge/Kids Mental Health Pierce County)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin Wick (AESD) [Alternate: Mick Miller]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Avanti Bergquist (WA State Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gwen Loosmore (Washington State PTA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Avreayl Jacobson (King County Behavioral Health and Recovery)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeannie Larberg (Whole Child Sumner-Bonny Lake School District)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Candi Blackford (Parent, Kittitas County Public Health)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jill Patnode (Kaiser Permanente)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cassie Mulivrana (Washington State Association of School Psychologists)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Neigel (Monroe School District)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catherine MacCallum-Ceballos (Vancouver Public Schools)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kelcey Schmitz (UW SMART Center) [Alternate: Eric Bruns]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Harnish, Mercer Island Youth & Family Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kelsey Winters (WSSDA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Courtney Sund (Highland School District)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Liliana Uribe (Parent)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Crump (Spokane Public Schools)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Logan Endres (Equity in Education Coalition)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Donna Bottineau (Parent/Family)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marcella Taylor (Parent)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elise Petosa (WA Association of School Social Workers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mariana Marquez Sital (Parent)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	MazzyRainn Janis (Peer Counselor)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Megan Reibel (Forefront Suicide Prevention, UW-School of Social Work) [Alternate: Rafaela Steen]
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Megan Veith (Building Changes)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Sorensen (Richland School District/WA Assoc. of School SWs)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prudence Chilufya (Washington Association of Community Health)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Rachel Axtelle (South Kitsap School District)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	RoseLynne P McCarter (Parent)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roy Johnson (Parent, Okanogan Alternative Schools)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandy Lennon (WA School-based Health Alliance)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tasha Bunnage (Parent)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tawni Barlow (Medical Lake School District)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Todd Crooks (Chad's Legacy Project)

**Youth Advisory Committee Members**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hanna Baker (K–12 Student)
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Staff: Diane Stead | OSPI

**Meeting notes**

**CYBHWG Recommendation Review**  
 Christian Stark, OSPI  
 See accompanying slide deck for more info  
 Presentation Notes:

- Lee Collyer is no longer in his position at OSPI and therefore will not continue to serve as a Co-Chair for this group moving forward. Questions should be directed to Anna Marie Dufault, Assistant Superintendent for the Student Engagement & Support division, at [annamarie.dufault@k12.wa.us](mailto:annamarie.dufault@k12.wa.us)
- Rep. Thai will meet with OSPI to discuss future planning for the Co-Chair position. All are invited to provide comments for discussion.

Discussion/Questions:

Q: The list of priorities across the Children & Youth Behavioral Health Work Group's report gets really long. How many of them actually get attention? If it's in the top five, does it stand a chance of getting more support, or top ten?

A: The majority of the list this year are budget requests with a few policy priorities mixed in. Budget requests require more strategy. We have seen some recommendations that came from the large group didn't get into the top because they required budget requests. They do take the important policies under advisement, especially for direction. All are considered under fiscal notes.

Mental Health Literacy Curriculum Lead:

- Mental Health Literacy Library: priority of creating FTE to advance mental health personnel in WA is part of the current phase 2 of the resource development. The Literacy Library website is helping us expand coverage to SEL, suicide prevention, and expanding other curriculum areas. The December School Mental Health Conference in New Orleans will be the website's national debut. It's going to require some funding to get it the rest of the way. Hopefully others will see that there is more work to be done. There are already people who are ready to be added to the library. We plan to continue adding programs over the next 12 months.
- Mental Health Literacy Library: <https://www.mentalhealthinstruction.org/>
- We need to destigmatize the topic of mental health and hope the web site will help, along with moving the work forward.
- This is not the end of our work, more the beginning. Now we need to see the funding come through to provide the services and bring the works to action.
- This recommendation is lower hanging fruit – MHLL just launched phase 2, invested in brand new website
- Need for funding to address the folks already standing in line to be added to the library

Public comment:

1. My questions are around your slide from priority 2, "Mental Health Training & Resources"
  - a. Q) Can you please clarify what the first bullet point means? I want to be sure I understand.
    - i. A) "Contracting with an organization to provide free training for staff and/or families" would mean a school district using grant funding to hire an outside community-based organization to provide mental health training for school staff and/or families in the school community
  - b. Q) What is a CBO?

- i. A) CBO stands for community-based organization
  - c. Q) What is the definition context of the word 'peer' in that slide? Is it referring to the Certified Peer Specialist Workforce? Or Peer, as in same age friends?
    - i. A) Peer as in same age friends/other fellow students at school
  - d. Q) I love the fact that a youth advisory committee was consulted in the creation of this recommendation, and give the fact that this recommendation is specific to parents, were any parent organizations consulted for feedback about needs based on their experiences/perspectives? Networking with parent-serving orgs like A Common Voice/C.O.P.E project, and Washington State Community Connectors (WSSC) could be helpful toward this.
    - i. A) The recommendation was informed by several parent/family members who are members of the Subcommittee, as well as public participants that are parents or represent community-based organizations. However, we should certainly include outreach to the parent-serving orgs listed above (and more) during our member recruitment early next year
2. At some time period, either earlier this year, there were a few parents who attended this meeting as either new members or members of the public. Is this correct? If so, one observation that concerned me was that a number of them seemed confused and lost about what the purpose of the committee is and whether they were in the "right place." Parent/family voice is indeed needed, but there may be a barrier within this space due to some of the complexities and administrative topics. It may come off as high level, so the only way I can see parents/families having a sense of belonging here is to make sure we are attentive to them as possible to break down concepts or include topic areas that level out the discussions for everyone. That could help in retaining them in the group.

## Advocating for Our Priorities During the Legislative Session

Group Share-out Notes:

*How can you advocate for SBBHSP priorities this session in your role?*

- In WA state, our educators need to know what is in process and how they can work toward pushing work forward.
- We need an elevator speech that people can use to discuss with legislators. Knowledge of who is doing what would also help.
- 2-pagers: is there something OSPI can do to condense down the message to make it more effective? 2-pagers may be too hefty. Keep the message brief and concise. Communications should be brief – don't send long emails.
- This year is a short session, so there really is not much time for budget, more for policy.
- Legislators during session have a very short attention span and need reminders.
- Which lobbyists were working recommendations and what were their strategies? Partnering through collaborative coalitions may be effective.
- Listening to concerns and aligning priorities that are attainable is a priority.
- Funding opportunities for further supports needs to be included.
- Know who is driving the strategy forward and keeping advocates informed would help.

- Give me a 2-minute elevator speech and I can talk to people.
- People need to work and advocate where they belong.
- If we want to advance the work group, expectations must be realistic, and the work needs to be consistent. We keep putting the work forward until the will arrives. Putting forth these ideas makes a lot of sense.
- The co-chair needs to have direct involvement in the legislature. Having a Representative on the committee adds credibility, importance, and communication for the committee.

*What tools do you need as members to advocate for SBBHSP priorities effectively?*

- Communication and coordination from the workgroup is crucial in the bill process so advocacy work can be guided. Sometimes when inexperienced people are trying to work a bill in the legislature, they don't know what is happening and await instruction that never comes. If they wait for instruction and don't know how to navigate the tracking of a bill, it may die in committee before they have a chance to work on it. If you're relying on a legislator to inform you of timelines, you will not get that support. You're lucky if you get their admin to do it. Notice can be short on testimony. A coordinator for testimony/stakeholders would help.
- State employees cannot advocate for bills but can monitor ongoing bills during session.
- What's often needed is a good elevator speech. You get about 2 minutes with people. If you have a message that is concise and clear, it would help in testimony. The ask must be clear and brief for people who are willing to testify.
- We need to make sure testimony is by someone who has the topic within their sphere of influence. Make sure hot button issues are going to the people who can best address them.
- The at-large group has been able to bring in a 3<sup>rd</sup> party, and we want to advocate for the priorities of this group, as well as the collective work. We cannot put OSPI in a lobbyist position.
- To serve the kids, we need to serve the families. It is important to connect with community-based organizations and ensure parent involvement. Recognizing that parents are voters who are passionate about their kids which makes them great advocates.
- We need a one-pager with enough detail to drill down how these asks connect and leverage current work. Where is the need inside of what we already have? We need to make sure it's in the ask.
- The Subcommittee priorities are not part of OSPI's official agency priorities this session. OSPI staff are engaging in these conversations as staff for the Subcommittee. We want to be sharing information about Subcommittee priorities but want to make clear that we are limited in our support as a state agency.
- Communication about legislation would be helpful for members that work for organizations that have their own legislative committees that will give verbal testimony for or against legislation that applies to their work/field
- Summary of advocacy needs:
  - Website or specific place where all of our recommendation info is clearly available
  - 1 pagers that summarize recommendations more succinctly, including the meat of each request, what we're asking for, and why – higher level overview than the current 2-pagers
  - Reminders of recommendations sent out again right after policy cut-off

- Partnering with community coalitions
- Clarity around local and community impact
- Basic advocacy toolkit = info for putting together 2-minute legislative testimony, including key list of expectations for what testimony looks like and real-time updates on when opportunities to testify are

Further Discussion/Questions:

Rep Thai will be on the hill next week and looks forward to seeing anyone who is there!

Happy holidays!

**Year/Two-Year Cycle Feedback Survey:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7629612/e6a891423292>

**Attendees:**

**State Agency + CYBHWG Staff:**

Ace Bulger, HCA  
Amber Wynn, OSPI  
Briana Kelly, OSPI  
Bridget Underdahl, OSPI  
Cindi Wiek, HCA  
Jennifer Price, HCA  
Julee Christianson, OSPI  
Kerry Bloomquist, OSPI  
Meghan Hopkins, DSHS DDA  
Monica Webster, HCA  
Morgan Nelson, DOH  
Paul Davis, HCA  
Rabeeha Ghaffar, WA DOH  
Tammy Bolen, OSPI  
Todd Slettvet, HCA-Medicaid, WA

**State Legislators & Staff:**

Representative Carolyn Eslick

**Public Attendees:**

Amy Browning, SBHASO Staff  
Angela Fraser-Powell, LMHC, CMHS  
Brittany Campbell, NEWESD 101  
Carolyn Solitaire, Parent  
Catherine Crawford, WA SBHA  
Daniel Smith  
Delaney Knottnerus - King County BHRD  
Jackie Berganio, King Co. Dept. of Com. & Human Svcs.  
Lizbet Maceda  
Maame Bassaw

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*Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group – School-based Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention*

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Meredith Piehowski, Care Coordinator GCBH-ASO  
Michelle Mitchell, WA SBHA Program Manager  
Phyllis Cavens, MD Medical Director, Child and Adolescent Clinic  
Richelle Madigan  
Tabby Stokes  
Tessa McIlraith, School Nurse Organization of WA