



# WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Safety Committee Meeting

March 28, 2024

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Minutes approved on May 23, 2024

### Committee Board Members:

Trustee, Christian Otheree, President Jamila Smith Folds

### Location:

1400 Marina Way S.  
Richmond, CA 94804

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## I. Opening Procedures

### Roll Call & Introductions

Chairperson Christian Otheree called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM

**Committee Members Present:** Christian Otheree, Jamila Smith-Folds

**Staff Attendees:** Luis Freese (Associate Superintendent, Operations), Julio Franco (Director of TK-12 Operations & Safety), Michael Booker (Safety & Disaster Preparedness Consultant) LaShante Smith (Director of Positive School Climate)

### Approval of Agenda:

*President Smith Folds asked to move item A.3 (Anticipated Future Meetings) to the bottom of the agenda.*  
Trustee Otheree approved the agenda.

### Committee Purpose

President Smith Folds shared committee's Vision and Purpose Goals for a safe and secure environment for WCCUSD community by using PBIS model, and understanding safe school plans.

## II. Public Comment

No public comment at the time 5:38 PM

## III. Discussion Items

### A. School Climate Update-Presentation by LaShante Smith

#### Purpose:

- Address school climate and social/emotional safety. Trends related to student behavior, chronic absenteeism, and student discipline outcomes. Review District resources and services that support data trends for student intervention.
- **Presentation**
  - WCCUSD believes strongly in creating a District-wide, positive relationship-based culture that is supportive of all members of WCCUSD that is grounded in Restorative Practices, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Trauma-Informed Practices
  - Safety Requires a multi-layered approach
    - TIER 1: Social/Emotional/Behavioral Strategies: Universal-All settings, All students
      - Clearly defined expectations across schools w/Consequence System
      - District Curricula: Second Step, WayFinder (in progress)
    - TIER 2: Targeted Supports–Some Students

- Supplemental Supports often delivered in small group settings
- District Support: CARE/SST and Partnerships with behavior/mental health staff for targeted group support
- TIER 3: Intensive Supports-Fewer Students
  - Highly individualized
  - District Support-Re-entry conference for returning students from suspension/juvenile hall, site based partnerships with community based organizations for individualized interventions
- Addressed Central Interventions: Social-Emotional Safety, Long Term Strategies and other initiatives to support social emotional learning and behavioral health, such as Community based partnerships, Community schools partnerships and use of EduClimber to better understand **District data.**
- **DATA**
  - 2022-2023 vs 2023-2024: Decrease of Suspension and other means of correction
  - “Caused, Attempted to Cause, Threatened Physical Injury” Decreased from 814 to 598 incidents in 2022-2023 to 2023-2024
  - Suspensions by school
  - Other incidents (Major incident Possession of knife/dangerous object)
    - 2022-2023: 52 Incidents
    - 2023-2023:23 Incidents

**Today’s Outcome:**

- Understand social/emotional safety from a tiered perspective
- Understand data related to student behavioral, discipline, and social /emotional safety across the District

**Board Commentary:**

- President Smith Folds: Vaping has increased state wide, how do we support students with vaping/tobacco use prevention/intervention?
  - Continue to use strategies from school framework-social emotional safety for students and staff
- President Smith Folds: What can we do in regards to decreasing vaping on campuses at 0 cost?
  - LaShante Smith: Search for grants to help purchase vape-detectors, provide study sessions to inform parents about vaping and the accessibility youth has to vape pens.
- Trustee Otheree: Provide Educational Assemblies for middle school on the dangers of vaping.
- Trustee Otheree: Safety Transfers vs Intradistrict transfers: Do we consider the communities students come from when placing them?
  - LaShante Smith: Yes, every student has a meeting before placements.
- President Smith Folds: Can we make changes or modify referral -racialized harm, and weaponized language?
  - LaShante Smith: Referrals have been revamped and we are asking educators what steps they have taken before sending a student out of class.
  - President Smith Folds: Schools should enforce positive social emotional language
  - LaShante Smith: We use Second Step K-8 and WayFinder for K-12 to promote positive social emotional language
  - President Smith Folds: We should encourage Adults (parent, volunteers, and staff) to use the same language
- Trustee Otheree: IDs
  - Michael Booker:: Sites have machines and resources to get it done.

**IV. Safety Committee Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date was set for Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 5:30 PM.

**V. Adjournment**

President Smith Folds adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM.