

Dorchester School District Two (D-2) Board Meeting

February 26, 2018

Observer: Vicki Westberg

Meeting Highlights

Meeting called to order at 6 PM & went into Executive Session at 8:22 PM

Previous meeting minutes were approved.

Recognitions: District Spelling Bee winners
2018 District School Counselor of the Year

Finance, Facilities and Personnel reports were accepted. Due to time constraints a review of the recent SCSBA Annual Conference was tabled until next meeting. Board members were reminded about three additional upcoming meetings/workshops/conferences.

District Safety, Security and Emergency Manager, Mike Turner, aided by SRO's and school Principals presented a detailed description of what the district is doing to ensure school safety. Presentation included:

Detailed description of district wide physical safety measures (door locks, security cameras, DVRs, etc.).

District wide "All Hazards Plan"

How NIMS Compliant standards are being met.

Individual School Plans including drills and procedures for natural and man made threats and emergencies.

A list of the number of SRO's stationed at each school.

Creating a climate of trust – "If you see something, hear something, say something"

Upcoming training for Threat Assessment and CRASE (Civil Response to Active Shooter Event)

All procedures are re-evaluated after each incident.

Parents were advised to NOT stand in front of the school during a lock down event because "lockdown" means the danger is on the OUTSIDE of the building.

Do not use the term "active shooter" to avoid scaring the kids.

Public Comments: There were about 20 public questions/comments/suggestions. (See D-2 meeting minutes on line).

State Rep Katie Arrington (challenging Mark Sanford in 2018) spoke briefly encouraging those in attendance to make their voices heard at the polls. She supports a bill to allow behavioral health clinicians into schools (previously suggested by Mr. Pye).

Funding: Dorchester County Council member Con Chellis also encouraged attendees to contact elected officials to give the districts the funding they need to pay for safety measures in the schools.

Mr. Pye said that it will be great if the legislature enacts additional safety measures for schools but also needs to provide the funds rather than pull from already strained programs. There were handouts listing names & contact info for Dorchester County legislative delegation, and Town & County members.