

Whole Child Task Force

Agenda

June 21, 2021

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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Whole Child Task Force members present:

- Karyn Aguirre, *Chicago Public Schools*
- Bessie Alcantara, *Alternatives, Inc.*
- Kristine Argue-Mason, *Partnership for Resilience*
- Dr. Terri Bresnahan, *Berkeley School District 87*
- Chris Bridges, *Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights*
- Maryam Brotine, *Illinois Association of School Boards*
- Dr. Colleen Cicchetti, *Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago*
- Dr. Maria Del Carmen Robles Sinkule, *Illinois Association of School Social Workers*
- Dale Fowler, *State Senator, 59th District*
- Maria Gandara, *Chicago Public Schools*
- America Gutierrez, *Student Advisory Council*
- Jaime Guzman, *Illinois State Board of Education*
- Dr. Lori James-Gross, *Unity Point School District 140*
- Dr. Shaniqua Jones, *Thornton Chicago Public Schools Township High School District 205*
- Dr. Jody Lack, *Southern Illinois University School of Medicine*
- Kimberly Lightford, *State Senator, 4th District*
- Victoria Mikos, *Schaumburg Consolidated School District 54*
- Krish Mohip, *Illinois State Board of Education*
- Dr. Tiffany Nelson, *Illinois Association of School Social Workers*
- Barbara Outten, *East St. Louis School District 189*
- Lauren Pett, *Chicago Public Schools*
- Dr. Kennedy Strickland-Dixon, *Oak Park River Forest High School*
- Jocelyn Vega, *Illinois Collaboration on Youth*
- Ann Whalen, *Advance Illinois*

Whole Child Task Force members absent:

- Sheila Ashby, *Kaskaskia Special Education 801*
- Avery Bourne, *State Representative, 95th District*
- Sandy De Leon, *City Colleges of Chicago*
- Dr. Colandra Hamilton, *Midlothian School District 143*
- Rita Mayfield, *State Representative, 60th District*
- Courtney Pharms-Marks, *Bloomington School District 87*
- Alisa Seo-Lee, *Chicago Public Schools*

ISBE Staff present:

- Krish Mohip, *Deputy Operational Education Officer*
- Jeff Aranowski, *Executive Director for Safe and Healthy Climate*
- Jen Saba, *Executive Director for Regional Services*
- Cara Wiley, *Director for Wellness Department*
- Dawn Frison-Cook, *Assistant to Executive Director for Regional Services*
- Athanasia Albans, *Assistant to Deputy Operational Education Officer*

Chair: Krish Mohip

Vice Chair: Victoria Mikos

I. Welcome/Roll Call

Mr. Mohip brought the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Mr. Mohip stated that the agenda item “discussion of subcommittees” would not be discussed today by the task force committee members. He further added that at the last Whole Child Task Force meeting, members agreed that prior to moving forward committee members need to have a common understanding of the definitions of trauma responsive. Mr. Mohip shared that the goal for today’s meeting was to continue the rich conversation on the definitions prior to breaking up into subcommittees.

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

II. Introduction of New Member, Lauren Pett.

Ms. Pett introduced herself and shared her background.

III. Common Definitions:

- a. Trauma-Response School
- b. Trauma Responsive District
- c. Trauma Response Community

Dr. Cicchetti stated that a small group of eight task force members met twice in the last week weeks. Two ideas the group wanted feedback on from task force members were:

1. What we want to mean when we use the word trauma.
2. What (definitions) do we want to use working forward?

Dr. Cicchetti explained that the purpose of the presentation, Definitions and Core Concepts, is to share a set of materials that demonstrate where the group started when they began discussing trauma and where the group is now. In addition, the hope was to receive input from the task force members about the information shared.

Ms. Whalen added that it was important that everyone has a common understanding of what is trauma. She further stated that it is not just the experience of trauma but rather the effect and context of the experience.

Mr. Mohip asked if the small group of eight task force members were defining trauma, not just as an event, but rather an event that has a lasting impact on a child.

Dr. Cicchetti responded that with the 3E it states that there is a broader impact. She provided an example of a children experiencing a tornado. Not every child who experiences a tornado is going to have ongoing trauma. That child experienced that event, but whether or not he/she felt at risk that he/she or someone they love is going to die, or he/she lost their house, or are separated from their family may change how they experience that particular event. She added, for trauma that requires an intervention, the immediate intervention would be a crisis response. When an immediate crisis intervention is done, many children may not require ongoing trauma support that requires an intervention. Dr. Cicchetti explained that what we would be looking for is how that bad experience is starting to affect a child's function in school over a long period of time. She explained that not all bad experience will necessarily require the same intervention. Some kids, families, and communities are very resilient and will be able to manage through that crisis and move forward. The hope is through this work we help more kids, families and communities in doing that.

Ms. Lack asked for clarification between acute trauma versus chronic trauma.
Dr. Cicchetti responded.

Ms. Aguirre asked about triggering events and when to identify post-traumatic stress disorder in students.
Dr. Cicchetti responded.

Ms. Mikos commented on microaggression and racism.
Dr. Cicchetti responded.

Mr. Mohip asked whether the task force members agreed with the three-pronged approach of defining trauma and if so that the small group of eight task force members continue working on the definitions of trauma informed schools, districts, and communities. The task force members agreed with the approach and direction.

Dr. Cicchetti asked that an article, Beyond ACE Score, be shared with the all the task force members.

Mr. Mohip stated that his understanding is that ACEs is an assessment given to all children by their pediatricians and not something done by schools or the state.

Dr. Cicchetti stated that is not something we know for sure and it is explained further in the article. She further explained the ACEs survey.

Dr. Cicchetti asked if the task force members were comfortable with embedding some description of ACEs but expand it to include the information (the tree diagram) to describe the multiple types of trauma that kids may experience.

Ms. Argue-Mason suggested including the ACEs study and the implication of the ACEs research instead of just listing the ten factors of ACEs without the study and research. Dr. Cicchetti responded.

Dr. Cicchetti explained the second part of the presentation, Proposed Framework for Consideration.

Dr. Strickland-Dixon added that the goal was to make certain that the language was common and understood in order to make the work moving forward easier.

Mr. Mohip asked if the state models presented were adopted by those particular state, or are they a working progress?

Dr. Cicchetti stated that every state differs.

Ms. Whalen stated that Illinois has begun the process of a state landscape analysis. She added that in some states, the SES (state education agency) has adopted definitions and in other states they have adopted legislation. In other states, it is an optional definition they are moving towards with support of the state agency. She shared that there is a continuum depending on the support behind it.

Dr. Cicchetti stated that Sen. Durbin recently announced bipartisan legislation called RISE (Resilience Investment, Support, and Expansion) to address childhood trauma and to reduce violence.

Task force members further discuss the various state models.

Ms. Whalen asked the task force members for feedback on the definitions.

Mr. Mohip stated that part of the charge of the Whole Child Task Force is to create definitions for trauma-responsive school, trauma-responsive district, and trauma-responsive community. He asked for further clarification about the direction of the definitions. Task force members further discuss the direction of the definitions.

Ms. Mikos asked what the definition to early childhood is.

Mr. Mohip said that at times it can be birth to five or birth to seven.

Dr. Cicchetti stated it is typically birth to four.

Sen. Lightford stated that educator stakeholders can come together to build a better trajectory of implementation moving forward. She added that we are not only speaking about this in the perspective of across the state, but also the range of effectiveness and its influence.

Mr. Mohip stated it is important to get the common definitions in order to move forward with the work of the task force.

Sen. Lightford stated that an extension to the February deadline can be requested in early October if necessary.

IV. Discussion of Subcommittees
This was not discussed.

V. Public Comment
There was no public comment.

VI. New Business
There was no new business.

VII. Adjourn
Sen. Lightford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Argue-Mason seconded the motion.
The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm.