
AGENDA ITEM 2

Information

January 26, 2017 Commission Meeting

Schools and Mental Health Commission Project

Summary: The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC or Commission) has prioritized a policy project to examine mental health and schools. A project framework entitled, *School-Based Mental Health Services for Children* outlines a series of activities that will result in the development of action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the Commission to improve mental health assessments, services, and outcomes for preschool and elementary school students in California. Project activities include site visits, workgroup meetings, public hearings, community forums, and focus groups to: 1) Define the scope of the problem; 2) Identify practices and models that have demonstrated positive student- and school-based outcomes; and 3) Provide the foundation for a pilot study to evaluate the impacts associated with an alternative approach(es) based on a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework for the assessment and treatment of children with emotional and behavioral health needs. A project site visit and workgroup meeting took place on December 6, 2016.

For the January 26, 2017, public hearing, subject matter experts, educators, parents, and stakeholders have been invited to share their knowledge and experiences to support the Commissioners' understanding of children's mental health needs and the local and state challenges and opportunities related to the project objectives.

Commissioner and Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools David Gordon will introduce the project and the need to enhance school-based mental health prevention and early intervention efforts for children.

Partnership with the California Department of Education

Speaker: Commissioner and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson

Panel 1: Family Members, Consumers, and Advocates

- Daniela Guarnizo, *Peer Advocate and Intern, California Council of Community Mental Health Agencies*
- Liza Morris, *Parent and Legislative Associate, Association of California School Administrators*
- Jessica Tavera-Vallines, *Parent and Educator*
- Additional panelists invited but not yet confirmed

Panel 2: School Administrators and Faculty

- Zenaida Agramonte, *Social Worker, Bell Avenue Elementary*
- Margaret Jones, *Licensed Educational Psychologist (LEP)*
- David Nelson, *Principal, Valley Oaks Elementary School*

Highlighting the Need for School-Based Mental Health Services

Presenters: Ken Berrick, President/CEO of Seneca Family of Agencies and Robin Detterman, Executive Director of School Partnerships of Seneca Family of Agencies

Enclosures: Panel invitation letters.

Handouts: (1) Panelist biographies, (2) Any additional panel invitation letters, and (3) presentation materials from Seneca Family of Agencies.