



**SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 3, 2022**

**Via Zoom**

**Regular Meeting: 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Approved**

**Members and Resource Staff present:** Lorraine Barrales-Ramirez, John Cuevas, Rob Dean, Casey Fortier, Max Hartman, Ray Hernandez, Michael Hoffman, Chialin Hsieh, Bettina Lee, Ben’Zara Minkin, Karen Pinkham, Ludmila Prisecar, Megan Rodriguez Antone, Michele Rudovsky, Grey Sanderson, Nathan Staples, Diana Tedone-Goldstone.

**Members and Resource Staff absent:** Tony Burrola, Lucas Cantin, Vince Garcia, Yesenia Haro, Kim Lopez, Ingrid Melgoza, Manuel Alejandro Pérez, Brian Tupper.

**Guests and others present:** Mary Chries Concha Thia, Chantal Sosa.

AGENDA ITEM	CONTENT
<p><b>1. Review and Approve Agenda</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION:</b> A motion to approve the agenda was made by Casey Fortier and seconded by Rob Dean. Motion passed.</p>
<p><b>2. Review and Approve the October 6, 2022, Meeting Minutes</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION:</b> A motion to approve the October 6, 2022, minutes was made by Lorraine Barrales-Ramirez and seconded by Casey Fortier. Motion passed.</p>
<p><b>3. Reports and Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Public Safety:</b> Rob Dean provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Food Drive:</b> Public Safety officers have been assisting with the food drive, and that is going well. There was an unfortunate incident at Skyline last week when one of their officers was injured, so they will pay attention to safety and also to the weather.</li> <li>• <b>COVID Test Kits:</b> The existing COVID test kits have an expiration date, but are still good several months out. Public Safety also has back newer stock and they will start to distribute them. People may also pick up test kits at the Public Safety Office or in the Bookstore. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Michele Rudovsky said the FDA extended the expiration date last time to three months. Since that time, the FDA has extended the expiration to 12 months, so the district will communicate that. She advised people to use or distribute the older test kits first before sending out the newer ones, which are now usable until July 2023.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Vaccination Clinic:</b> There will be a vaccination clinic on campus in Parking Lot 7 on November 10 and Public Safety will help facilitate as needed.</li> <li>• <b>Daylight Savings Ends:</b> A reminder to set back clocks one hour since daylight savings time ends on November 6.</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Karen Pinkham reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the first week of December, the wood stairs to the athletic fields will be replaced with concrete stairs. Once completed, they will install the second half of the flashing crossing light across the Loop Road. The Facilities team is working with Matt Lee to plan the work around the athletics schedule.</li> </ul>

- Facilities is also making sure the campus is ready for the rainy season by clearing roof drains and removing leaves.

**Emergency Preparedness Office:** Ben'Zara Minkin talked about the Great Shakeout earthquake and evacuation drill that was held district-wide on October 20. He noted that the different colleges have different strengths. Skyline had issues with the EAS alert notification, but good Building Captain representation and radio discipline. Rob Dean and Brian Tupper were at Cañada and said the EAS was good. People evacuated appropriately and the only difficulty was with the radio communication.

- VP Prisecar said that Cañada needs to update its list of Building Captains and Floor Managers.
  - Ben'Zara said they are looking at voluntary enrollment to help the colleges be compliant, and he is working with his supervisors on that. Cañada has very few Building Captains given the number of campus buildings. The training will provide information as to who will be a Building Captain. He has a list of everyone who has been trained, but the list of who would actually be a captain needs updating.

**Recovery and Safety Update:** COVID-19 Health Officer Ray Hernandez reviewed the COVID case numbers for San Mateo County, which are at the lowest point he has seen. While the trending is low, with the holidays and colder weather coming, people will move indoors so there will be surge. It is part of a cycle and there are a couple of new variants they are watching. There will be messaging around strategies that the district will send out shortly.

Vaccinations and boosters

The CDC also added the vaccination rates for San Mateo County and they can be viewed on the covid.cdc.gov site. San Mateo County's population is highly vaccinated. For people who completed their primary series, including children five years and older, 70% have completed their first primary booster. There are still gaps in populations with high risk factors, as well as people of color and children, so they continue to reach out. For those who have received the maximum number of boosters, a total of three for those who are at higher risk or more mature in age.

Pop-up Clinics: The district continues to work with San Mateo County to provide popup clinics. The county receives state and federal funding to support this and will continue to do so as long as the funding is there. Cañada will hold its pop-up clinic on November 9 and Karen Pinkham is working with the county and will do a walk-through to make sure the campus facilities are ready. It is expected to be well-attended.

Suspension of Vaccination Policy: A district-wide vaccination policy review task force met and recommended to the Chancellor to suspend the vaccination policy, which was approved by the board. Information is posted on the district's COVID return to campus website. Following the board's approval, ITS has been working to make sure that all barriers are removed (tech-wise) for students to be able to register for classes. Based on that recommendation, the task force made it clear that there were other strategies that they wanted the board to support, which are:

- Continue to provide free antigen testing
- Continue to provide masks and have them readily available
- Continue to partner with the county for access to vaccinations

- Provide a robust educational campaign to ensure that we are continuing to support health and safety around COVID.

Michael Hoffman said the task force was a representative body across faculty, staff and administrators. He represented faculty and received several emails from people expressing their opinions on the vaccine mandate. There was overwhelming agreement by the frontline staff who were trying to get the students registered that the vaccination requirement was disruptive for students. The group reached consensus and the recommendation was submitted to Chancellor Claire after just one meeting.

CDC Strategies: Ray is working on the educational campaign and has a draft one-page document that outlines the four strategies as defined by the CDC, which he hopes to launch by December before people start on their winter break. The strategies are:

- Know your risk
- Protect yourself
- Take action if exposed
- Take action if you are sick or test positive

Ray noted that exposure is one element that has changed. Beginning in the spring semester, people no longer have to notify if they have exposed someone to COVID. The district will keep the same process on the website when someone registers that they have tested positive until the fall semester ends. There will no longer be an automatic notification in the classroom when a student identifies that they have COVID and possibly have exposed the class.

The other thing that is changing is that the CDC is moving away from testing after isolation.

The recommendation that people stay home when they do not feel well has not changed. If they have COVID symptoms, they should follow up with antigen or PCR testing. We will continue with this in the state of California through the end of February. Starting in December, the CDC has changed the guidance to say that after isolation for five days and if symptoms have improved and there is no fever for 24 hours, people can return and there is no antigen testing recommended.

Education Campaign: For the education campaign, the Skyline Health & Safety Committee wants to modify the language to say that if someone is experiencing symptoms and identifies themselves as high risk, they should be sure to get medication therapy, such as COVID Paxlovid or an antiviral medication for the flu right away. Skyline talked about whether there should be separate campaigns for students vs employees and Ray wants to start with one campaign and then do it differently if needed. He also plans to contact the Health Centers at the three campuses to get their feedback. He wants to have only one page of information with links.

The district will continue to provide free testing and free masks. The FDA has extended the shelf life of test kits, so that messaging will go out. It lists the manufacturers, with the expiration dates and what the extended period for use would be.

#### Vaccination Clinics

Vaccination popup clinics are now open for the bivalent booster. As of October 12, all appointment slots at the College of San Mateo popup clinic are full. More vaccines will be provided and people will be able to walk in and receive their booster.

The county will continue with COVID popup clinics every two weeks. The dates are October 26, November 9, November 23, and through the end of November. Ray has

	<p>asked if they can rotate those clinics throughout the three campuses, and these are the proposed dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 26 at Skyline College</li> <li>• November 9 at Cañada College</li> <li>• All remaining dates are at College of San Mateo.</li> </ul> <p>Those dates will be confirmed.</p> <p><u>Monkey Pox Vaccine:</u> The Health Centers will be having a parallel vaccination with the monkey pox vaccine tentatively on October 26 at Skyline, November 9 at Cañada and November 23 at College of San Mateo.</p> <p>The SMCCCD and Board of Trustees will be looking at the vaccination policy and the Chancellor has led an ad hoc group to start the process. The work has to be done and the board must approve by the October 26 Board Meeting in time for spring registration.</p> <p>VPAS Prisecar asked if popup vaccination clinics are open to community members as well as students, staff and faculty. Ray confirmed that they are and the vaccine is available for people and children ages 5 and up.</p> <p>Ray said there are focus groups at the county for groups where they see gaps in vaccination and they are asking for our input. Ray will speak on behalf of the general community, but has forwarded the information to the health centers and child development centers across the district so they can weigh in and improve vaccination rates for gapped groups.</p> <p><b>Human Resources Office:</b> No update was provided.</p>
<p><b>4. Review Building Captain List</b></p>	<p>VP Prisecar said there is an urgent need to update the Building Captain list and it will be updated as the College goes through the trainings. As soon as the list is available, it will be posted to the Safety Committee website. People are encouraged to attend the three-day trainings, which are being held at all three campuses. Training at Cañada is scheduled for November 16, 17 and 18.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ben’Zara Minkin thinks that each college will have its own Building Captain training next semester.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Safety Training: Blood Borne Pathogen and Fume Hood Safety Trainings and Chemical Hygiene Plan (Ludmila Prisecar)</b></p>	<p>These topics will be reported on at a future meeting.</p>
<p><b>6. Spring 2023 Proposed Schedule</b></p>	<p>VP Prisecar asked if committee members prefer in-person meetings or should they continue to be held on Zoom. Most members prefer that meetings remain on Zoom since it is more convenient. She said the committee can look into trying a hybrid meeting if it wants.</p> <p>Meetings will continue to be held on the third Thursday of the month from 2:30pm-4:00pm. The proposed dates are listed and Linda Bertellotti will check for any conflicts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 26, 2023, 2:30pm-4:00pm</li> <li>• February 23, 2023, 2:30pm-4:00pm</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 23, 2023, 2:30pm-4:00pm</li> <li>• April 20, 2023, 2:30pm-4:00pm</li> <li>• May 18, 2023, 2:30pm to 4:00pm</li> </ul>
<b>7. December 1, 2022 Preliminary Agenda Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports and Updates</li> <li>• The use of 'home-made' lab kits for DE without liability waivers</li> <li>• Chemical Hygiene Plan</li> <li>• Safety Trainings: Blood Borne Pathogen and Fume Hood Safety Trainings;</li> <li>• Safety Training for Students: How to deal with hazardous situations on campus</li> </ul> <p>Michele will let Ludmila know when she has an update on the trainings.</p> <p>Please email any additional topics to Ludmila Prisecar.</p>
<b>8. Round Table</b>	<p>Diana Tedone-Goldstone asked if there are policies/procedures around our student assistants working in areas that are open to the public, such as the library, community fitness, etc., to ensure that they are being treated respectfully by members of the public. it was brought up as a concern for student safety.</p> <p><u>Fire Blankets</u>: Michele Rudovsky did some research and found that fire blankets are not code required by the SMCCCD. Typically, for protection and fire equipment, the district follows code requirements and are not inclined to provide them. The extinguishers that are in the labs are the preferred way of handling fire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ After discussion, Nathan Staples clarified that fire blankets are used by people to wrap themselves in during a fire. Nathan noted that there is one extinguisher per lab but that won't put out a larger fire.</li> <li>○ Ben'Zara said they want people to try to extinguish when a fire begins but then immediately leave the building. The larger extinguishers are not a preferred method of fighting a fire, however Ben'Zara said the fire blankets could be a safety tool to protect people who are leaving a room with a large fire.</li> <li>○ VP Prisecar will speak with Dean Ameer Thompson to see what program-specific equipment is needed.</li> </ul>
<b>9. Next Meeting</b>	The next Safety Committee Meeting will be held on December 1, 2022, from 2:30-4:00pm.
<b>10. ADJOURNMENT</b>	<p><b>ACTION:</b> A motion to adjourn the Safety Committee Meeting was made by Nathan Staples and seconded by Lorraine Barrales-Ramirez.</p> <p>Motion passed.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.</p>