

Safety Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
4:30 pm - Zoom

**Members in attendance:** John Campbell, Sabrina Dowell, Elizabeth Hayden, Rose Kebe, Candace Miller, Latisha Moore, William Shenko

**Guest Speakers:** Jordan Edwards – FBS, Winchell McKinney – Edward’s Risk Management

Candace Miller called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm and welcomed everyone.

The agenda for today’s meeting and the minutes from the November meeting were sent out electronically. The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Candace reviewed the mission of the Safety Committee.

Candace presented the Question for Discussion/Action and asked the group for recommendations and strategies that we can communicate to staff.

Jordan Edwards went over the Worker’s Comp Claims review. Jordan stated that the trend is going up nationwide. This might be due to COVID. There is a lot going on in the world and people are not focused on one thing, but trying to juggle many things.

Jordan shared the Injuries by Cause Chart. This compared types of injuries for years 2019, 2020 and 2021. There were 73 total claims in 2019 with a total cost of \$327,305. There were 44 claims in 2020 with a total cost of \$152,734. In 2021, there were 83 claims for a total of \$406,026. We see the claims are trending up.

Next, the Committee looked at the claims by departments for the last five years. The data showed that in 2018 claims were trending down. After COVID came, claims started going back up.

The Biannual Data by school type for the last two years showed an uptick in claims, particularly with elementary campuses. In 2020, claim totals were \$152,734. In 2021, the total in claims was \$406,027. These numbers align with what’s going on in the country. Jordan will send the data to Candace to disperse to the Committee.

Candace reminded the Committee that safety inspections will take place in April. This will be done districtwide.

The Committee then went over the Accident Investigation & Discovering Root Cause slide. Candace explained that uncontrolled or poorly controlled hazards create unsafe acts and /or unsafe conditions that almost always are the result of an underlying reason. The lack of proper information, poor training, and unsafe procedures can cause accidents.

Candace then shared the date from the Fall Injuries by Cause as of December 31, 2021. At least two-thirds of these accidents are due to lack of awareness. We need to educate employees and management staff. This needs to start at the Supervisor level and flow down. They need to set the example. We need to research safety vulnerabilities, provide protection equipment, have adequate staffing levels, and not take shortcuts. Mr. Shenko sends out safety tips weekly to train his staff.

Candace then went over the Loss Prevention Activities. Monthly safety postings are sent districtwide. Campus and department safety trainings are four times a year; August, October, January, and March. Child Nutrition safety trainings happened every month between August and April. The Transportation Department holds monthly trainings between September and May. Facilities Management has weekly safety trainings. Mr. Shenko created a safety calendar. This is available to anyone who wants one. Just email Mr. Shenko. Thank you to Edwards Risk Management for their help with the calendars. Edwards Risk Management also funds the SERC Safe Employee Recognition Campaign for Child Nutrition and Transportation, as well as the Work Wear Shoe Event in the fall.

The Safety Incentive Programs are funded by Worker's Comp Solutions details for the 2021-22 programs were provided to the committee members.

Winchell McKinney from Edward's Risk Management shared information on the upcoming Spring training sessions. She will come out and present these sessions. Topics included in the second session are: Setting Up and Taking Down Tables, Lifting, Moving, and Carrying Materials, Using Ladders and Working at Heights, Exceeding Your Limitations, Burns, Cuts, Lacerations, Trash Dumping Injuries, Injuries by Students, Trips, Slips, and Falls, Vehicle Accidents, and Sprains and Strains.

The third session will be after Spring break. This will be done as an educational Jeopardy Game. The board titles will include: Body Mechanics, Slips, Trips, and Falls, First Aid, Emergency Response, Exercise and Nutrition, Bloodborne Pathogens, Hearing Protection and Eye Protection.

Winchell will also provide the Yellow Fleet Training for Transportation. This will be like the game The Big Reveal. Topics for this game will include; Fundamentals of Defenseless Driving including Intersections, Water over the Road, Checking for Sleeping or Hiding Children, Emergency Evacuations, Pre-trip and Post-trip Inspections and Freeway Driving.

Candace asked the group how we can raise awareness and prevent work injuries? The most prevalent accidents are falls, slips and strains. We want to be creative and think of strategies that can keep accidents from happening.

Currently we have safety postings, safety trainings, and safety inspections. Some ideas to toss out are award announcements for the safest campus or department., safety message decals, toolbox topics.

William suggested "DTC-Don't take chances". This is on all their vehicles.

Another suggestion was Safety Bingo. This might be complicated to do.

Winchell suggested "See Something Say Something Campaign". Boxes would be put out where staff can anonymously submit items they see that could result in an accident. This would encourage all of us to be our brother's keeper. Look out for each other.

Candace took a poll of members present to see if we could move the March meeting to April 27 from 4:30 – 5:30 pm. Members were fine with the change.

Members were reminded to continue to distribute safety information. Candace will send out a survey to all members. Members need to respond. We are also looking for ideas for next year's decal slogan.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrice Morrison