

Colorado School Plant Managers Meeting
October 21,2005

Introductions by Pete Hall
Director of Facilities for Poudre School Dist.
42 members were in attendance

Two items: Our thanks to Megan for contacting all the school districts to update information on member rosters. We will distribute it to all members.

Compliments to Diana Scott for networking on the western slope.

- Elections are not quite complete.

Director position: Jeff Arnold, Mike Maloney, Diane Scott from Eagle county

President: Wayne Blazek- will become president in January

Vice President: Dane Jablonski- Volunteered for Vice President if no one else accepted the role.

Secretary /Treasurer: Marian Nall-Volunteered to continue position.

- Douglas County hosting next month on Tues. Nov. 29.
- Bill Moffitt will update us on the current facility study survey. Cherry Creek indicated they would participate. Please encourage others to get it involved.
- Non-profit status for CSPMA; we need to go forward. If you need that number you need to file a very long document to get it. Should we create an organization chart for the CSPMA group with justification /documentation as to why we exist? Make sure the statement is accurate and contact Bert Huszcza, who could assist in creating the document. With the By-Laws, Wayne started on the document but needs some help in making sure the document is accurate. After completion, we will send it out for review.
- We still need photos of schools for our web master for insertion. We need to get other school districts represented so any assistance would be appreciated.

Presentations

➤ Floor Coverings and Indoor Air Quality presented by John Kimble from Tandus: John stated some studies have been done for daylighting in areas of merchandising where daylighting has caused patrons to shop longer (up to 20%).

Acoustics – background noise levels are recommended to stay at or below 35 db's.

Thermal Comfort – Ambient or ideal room temperature should be between 68-73 – floor covering can help in maintaining the comfort range.

Maintenance- Good maintenance leads to an improved learning and healthy environment

Insert presentation on Day Lighting, Thermal Comfort, Maintenance and what floor covering adds to the environment. C&A research documented in the brochure available.

IAQ - Link Engineering part of your overall evaluation of flooring.

- Climbing Walls & Theater Procedures presented by Jana Webster-Wheeler, Kristen Bennett, Jim Knauer, and Jerry Garretson:

Safe procedures & Inspections were introduced a few years ago with a lot of help from K.C. Keen of Dist. 11. Industry changes and litigation caused us to embark on a new journey. They worked closely with risk management and administration. We want to share with all of you so if you have these problems you may benefit from our experience. There was no direction in the district as to how it is maintained. There are ups and downs to having Climbing Walls in your facility. Work together. We started to reign back in what was happening. Our resource manager assisted in generating more questions to help out – climbing ropes, walls, padding, safety guidelines, what do we have for fall-protection. What do we need to create a zone? Who's inspecting them? Who's insuring they are safe? There were no written standards for climbing walls, so Tom Leahy is in the process of writing standards in an effort to move forward on the issue. Padding had to be thicker. Are we willing to support the program? Why do we have it? Is it a part of curriculum standards?

The benefits for students set up a healthy mindset. The walls address skills, team building, collaboration, patience, cognitive skills, decision-making and the physical aspect. Motor skills and strength training were a benefit to PE teachers. This is an area where students can be successful where perhaps they could not be in other areas such as football or basketball. It gives them other opportunities and instills basic life skills. When students enter into a classroom they are expected to perform to a certain degree but some students need nurturing and the wall provides these interpersonal skills. It gives them a great opportunity, both extra curricular and during the school day. Weather permitting this gives them other options. .??? With regard to PE people coming to you, was it random or was it key points that made you consider it as a curriculum devise? Many times it's the PE teacher that comes forward. These are important questions but it was a

case-by-case decision. Many questions came about such as do we keep them and support them. No design plan or engineering specifications were available and not all schools have the walls. Some schools had strong parent groups and teachers were pushing the issue. Location and gym sizes were a concern. Some were located at the end of the gym behind the baskets; others were 30-50 ft. up a traversing wall. If we continue to build them is there a set inspection on these walls? Is it a part of curriculum? Who uses them? What do we allow and how do we train gym teachers to use them.

Recommendations: Risk management in district needs to take a stance and make a decision on these walls. Kristin has put a plan of action together. **Insert PSD** issues with walls. Our training is outdated so we need standardized, updated training with documentation involved. Contract with Tom Leahy. Equipment is also old and outdated.

PSD Response: 1. Policy procedures were implemented
2. Recommend maintenance repairs
3. Training documentation

Insert Policy / procedure developed.

It is required to be inspected by the state if the state knows about the wall. Engineer needs to inspect the wall or you may be closed down. Get everyone involved and have a written curriculum in place. Gym teachers have more buy in to the safety process when you work collaboratively with the staff. Curriculum is in constant change.

Everlast Walls: Installed by the company so the padding becomes your security; their plans are engineered and stamped.

Safety Issues to watch for: Fall protection, secure ropes, cages to secure ropes, secure rooms, harness, carabineer, helmet inspection, after hour use and supervision etc. are all issues. . We don't let people off the street use our kilns, we don't let them use our band instruments, so why would we allow them to use our climbing walls. Proper harness attachment is critical!

What's next?

Secure walls from non-curriculum use. Training, training, training! Implement a record keeping system and annual inspections.

Cost: PSD to bear initial cost and upgrade of walls and equipment to bring into compliance.

After initial cost the sites are to bear the cost of further annual inspections, training and ongoing maintenance and repairs.

Other issues:

Cargo nets

Climbing ropes

Theaters:

One person had a hydraulic lift fall on her; she was not in the lift. We recommend students need to be 16 yrs or older and be trained by a certified trainer to be allowed in the lift. It's also recommended to have a release waiver in place. Training for the teachers is very important so mandatory attendance is advised. Are the traverse walls mounted on a separate plywood partitions? Mounts in the hollow brick wall are not recommended. Do you have operator training or a fulltime theater technician? Brainstorm with this person on curriculum needs, facilities needs and risk management needs. Can you share the contents of the job description? Who's going to be qualified for this? They have a good pool of candidates. HR determined this position is similar to master level trades position. How much is the cost for a school inspection? Response: Flat hourly fee. He then writes a proposal back to them with recommendations.

- Pete Hall – Sybertech: A new strategy in underground waste management and it is a sustainable product. It is buried in the ground about 5 feet, is great for athletic areas, is self-compacting and keeps bees out. It consists of a large heavy-duty plastic bag inserted into the container with a base and chains used for removal. It will hold a much greater capacity of waste. Use a front-end loader or lift to remove liner from the ground. Can also match school colors. The unit is installed within a gravel base: Cost is \$1262 - \$2000 with installation. Max bags were \$162.

High Performance Building Conference is July 27 and 28. We are currently looking for speakers; we have two tracks, one that is technical and one curriculum based. We want "high performance" to be the norm. We will send out more information and give you a quick heads up. CSPMA and other organizations may put out a flyer. If you don't hear anything call Ed Holder, Construction Manager, at 970-490-3412.

Round Table:

Steve Hoban is our CASBO representative and is there to represent your viewpoint. IAQ is not just a facility issue; it's also a user issue. If we think that it would be beneficial we can bring in a speaker who happens to have an EPA grant. If all are in agreement, it would be a break out session. Information: John Albright is attending the ASBO conference right now. The CASBO board is considering a move of the spring conference to Denver in 2007.

- Are you interested and what does that mean?
- Will fewer be able to stay due to closer proximity to your district?

- Would it kick our registration fee up to \$300?
- Is that an artificial barrier, will this be a problem? Bill feels this will be an issue.
- Does CASBO have a breakdown of what the fees go to? No we don't, but we feel it would be beneficial to have a financial breakdown.
- We do know what our key note speakers cost. That's the benefit of being a member to both organizations.
- If we pay registration for the conference, what are the consequences of people leaving? We need to commit to the room block; if we don't hit our room block quota there is a penalty.
- Has the attendance gone down or is it stable. It's hard to gauge because CSPTA has separate conference. We had 120 at Breckenridge. Why do we not do them all at break?
- Some districts pay out of professional development funds. Even if the district were reimbursing us, two at break would be a cost issue.
- What if ballot issues, C & D fail and money gets really tight in school districts?
- People aren't using money to go to CASBO or out of state conferences.
- We have had a conference planner in the past.
- Do we really need the keynote speaker? It's an opportunity for professional development. What about the possibility of staying with a local speaker?
- CASBO has been approached by Adams State College to provide continuing education credit. Diane feels it will help because it meets her criteria. Our program criteria would have to be looked at. CASBO international sent out a pilot program for a CASBO award. A master strategic plan was brought up in a conference call.