

CABINET BRIEFING

RISK MANAGEMENT INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

SPRING
2022

DEAR NBSIA MEMBERS

We developed this briefing to provide important information for school leaders about risk and safety issues, along with related support, programs and services provided by NBSIA – your partner in risk management. We know you're busy and hope you find this briefing useful and easy to read.



WHAT IS RISK MANAGEMENT?

We get asked this question a lot. As you might imagine, the term “risk” means different things depending on the context. NBSIA manages organizational risk, the risk that goes along with normal business operations. In public schools, that includes injuries to staff or students, cyber breaches, employment practices, vehicle accidents, and damage to school property.

Public risk pools like NBSIA use a framework to **identify and analyze** our members’ risks, **evaluate** options for reducing those risks, **apply** solutions, and **monitor** the impact. Risks are prioritized by the likelihood they will occur and the severity of the impact. This process is not static – risks in public schools change all the time. We work closely with members and the broader public school and risk management communities to stay on top of current issues.

MEET OUR NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR KIM SANTIN

Kim joined the NBSIA team on January 24, 2022. She comes to us with 30 years of experience in public pooling from a variety of perspectives.

As a CPA, Kim performed accounting and financial administration for JPAs and school districts. She later managed multiple school risk pools, including rate setting, budgeting, investments, member education, and strategic planning. She has interacted extensively with pool boards and managed leadership teams.

Kim has also participated in many associations that serve the public risk pooling industry including the California Association of Joint Powers Authorities (CAJPA) and the Association of Governmental Risk Pools (AGRiP). I am struck by how many people in our world know Kim, and more importantly how well she is regarded. She will have a deep bench of support in her new role.

We hope you will have the opportunity to meet Kim personally in the months to come. She can be reached at kims@nbsia.org.

Welcome Kim, to the NBSIA family!

April is national child abuse prevention month. NBSIA has training and resources available to support members in this important cause through our weCARE program.

Consider participating in [Five Days of Action](#), April 18-22, to protect kids from sexual abuse.

weCARE
CONNECTION | AWARENESS | RESPONSE | EDUCATION

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

MORE INFORMATION ON ALL PROGRAMS IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

WWW.NBSIA.ORG



SPOTLIGHT: CYBER SECURITY

Data breaches have increased in frequency and severity in the past few years. Public schools have



emerged as a preferred target for hackers due to the volume of personal data they maintain on students and staff. We know from listening to our members that remote work and learning are likely here to stay in some capacity.

NBSIA is working closely with our members to share information about cyber security best practices and resources for securing systems and confidential information. We formed a **Tech Peer Group** with one representative from each of our Property/Liability Program members, to exchange information and learn about the challenges our members face in this area.

Through our PL Program, we offer good cyber coverage at relatively reasonable group rates. Our ability to continue securing coverage and protecting systems and data will depend on the actions we take over the coming months. See more about our strategic focus on **Protecting Members' Digital Assets** on the next page.

- *Update software and apply patches timely.*
- *Use strong passwords and a password locker.*
- *Encrypt all computers and devices.*
- *Perform regular phishing training and testing.*
- *Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA).*

A [printable tip sheet](#) with more information is available on our website.

FORESIGHT: EDUCATION 2030

In January, the NBSIA Board of Directors and staff met to continue work on our strategic foresight project, **Education 2030**. Using information received from members about the future of public education in the next 10 years, we developed five risk management “Focus Areas” to support evolving member needs:

Focus Area 1: Reconnect and Expand Communications

Recognizing the disruption over the past two years and the importance of relationships, we will look at creating ways to interact regularly and deeply with our members.

Focus Area 2: Emerging Issues Fund

Our collective strength has been used to invest in programs and services that support member needs. Creating a proactive fund will enable us to quickly respond to evolving issues.

Focus Area 3: Whole-Member Safety and Wellbeing

Mental health has been on the forefront for many years, even before the pandemic. Providing holistic support for students and staff improves safety, morale, and injury outcomes.

Focus Area 4: Protect Members' Digital Assets

Cyber security is on everyone's radar these days, with annual breach losses now reaching trillions of dollars and insurance difficult to obtain. Securing school systems and sensitive data will help protect school dollars and reputation.

Focus Area 5: Pool-to-Pool Collaboration

We look to expand partnerships between NBSIA and other pools into new coverages, programs, and services, to create economies of scale while maintaining our strong local member relationships.