



MINUTES

Providence School Board Health & Wellness Committee Meeting
797 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

March 27, 2019

CONVENE MEETING

1. Call Meeting to Order - Committee Chair Robert Gondola called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

In Attendance:

Robert Gondola, Committee Chair
Linda Grossi, HPE Teacher Gilbert Stuart/Physical Health Subcommittee Co-Chair
Kate Messier, YMCA/Physical Health Subcommittee Co-Chair
Krista D'Amico, RICADV/ Healthy Relationships Subcommittee Co-Chair
Amy Burns, Kennedy Elementary
Ellen Cynar, City of Providence Healthy Communities Office (HCO)
Joyce Bernau-Enriquez, Central High School teacher & Student at Salve Regina University
Karin Wetherill, Co-Director of the RI Healthy Schools Coalition
Lino Cambio, PPSD Supervisor Food Services
Margaret Read, Farm to School Consultant
Edda Carmaello, PPSD Special Education Director, Special Education
Gail Matropietro, PPSD Social Emotional Learning & Supports/Lead School Psychologist
Solight Sou, PPSD Wellness Coordinator

APPROVE AGENDA

2. Approve Agenda as presented
A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented
MSV – Grossi, Messier (13-0) MOTION APPROVED

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of Minutes -- January 23, 2019
A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented
MSV – Grossi, Messier (13-0) MOTION APPROVED

MEETING TOPICS

4. Food Services RFP Subcommittee Update -
Comments from Bobby: Reminder that we voted out recommendations based on H&W priorities for Food Services in our district. , Those priorities were communicated to the District, and integrated in the RFP a month ago

There was a Vendor meeting where three vendors attended the required pre-bid meeting.

Bobby attended and drew attention to H&W priorities and our goals.
Bobby will be on review committee and will also assign one person from H&W to review proposals.

Karin - do vendors see schools and their cafeterias? Yes, were at several schools

Kate asked about duration of contract - 1 year contract with option to renew every 4 years

Karin - H&W able to see the rubric after the decision is made? Create transparency on how this is done

Ellen - this is public scoring for any public bid, housed on board of contract/supply public agenda - ensuring transparency and accessible to general public

-contact Shirley McBride to update her on the RFP process and thank her PPSD Wellness Coordinator

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. Social Emotional Subcommittee Update -

Gail's updates: AWARE grant to provide mental health first aid training to all staff

Training 16 psychologists and .social workers in district - summer institutes (May, 3 full days)

Jael will be a trainer so that partners in our schools will also have this training

Training provided by sole source contract - Mental Health First Aid to provide certified trainer so that staff can become certified as well.

Police dept. and other city employees participate - extend to SRO's to attend if available

Also available to Cafeteria staff, TA's

Offer it school based/school specific, but also available to anyone who is interested

Addressing climate and culture in schools

Six hours total over three days

SEL PD exceeded number of allotted slots

Edda - Gail has been handling this alone since there has not been a coordinator hired for this

Celebrate her retirement at our next meeting!!!

Bobby- all subcommittees, especially SEL before Gail's departure, should provide annual presentation to highlight all this work and its importance to provide comprehensive picture of what our committee does through annual presentations

Formalize so that work is prioritized and becomes sustainable and successful

Bobby's requests: Add rubric and recommendations to our next meeting agenda

Prioritize additional supports to our principals to create robust and comprehensive work

RFP- our engagement with FSMC provided empowerment to committee

6. Physical Health & Nutrition Subcommittee Update -

Tentatively scheduled meeting on April 24th

Focused /partnered with Sodexo (taste tests, quality monitoring)

Goals for next SY to include K-12 not just elementary schools like in the past

Strategic, micro-manageable goals

Bobby- FSMC showed us ways that H&W can encourage accountability through metrics and a report back on a quarterly basis

Idea- improve breakfast in schools

Identify priorities/goals as a living document that shift/evolve as needed

Request to check in - focused goals for each subcommittee and revisit them often to stay on track

H&W track metrics to goals through work of subcommittees - have the same transparency and accountability for ourselves

Ellen - governor's No Student Hungry initiative

Would require all K-12 public schools who are eligible to take it on - meet income threshold, all students receive free meals

Our schools are Community Eligibility Provision eligible

7. Healthy Relationships Subcommittee Update -

Continuing to explore current and future goals of Healthy Relationships

Revisiting where the amended policy should be housed

Regular attendance in meetings but need to retain engagement

Youth presence has dwindled because seniors had graduated - need to re-engage youths

Tomorrow is the next meeting at Classical HS through PE teacher Steve Cohen

What are new goals? Identify strategies

Communicate what Healthy Relationships subcommittee is all about

Raise awareness

Healthy Relationships subcommittee is in the process of creating business-card sized promotion card for resource guide that was created a few months ago

Subcommittee member from Brown will be designing it

Healthy Relationships meetings are open to students and anyone who would like to attend

Joyce Bernau-Enriquez- member of cohort at her school that addresses racial equity and connects to issues our students face and it is connected to healthy relationships in creating supportive school environment

Bobby - equity is always at the forefront but let's bring it to H&W and our group

PRESENTATION

8. Youth Risk Behavior Survey Teen Dating Violence -

Deep dive at cross-cutting issues and disparities

*Female and male disparities - impacts both but women more so

**students who identify gender conforming and gender nonconforming - students self-identify and was a pilot question - gender expression

Disparities for students with disabilities and also depending on their sexual orientation

Dating Violence linked to absences and mental health issues (depression and anxiety spiked); substance abuse as well

Clearly there is a need to prioritize safe and supportive environments and how they are linked to Healthy Relationships.

Educators must also have information for students regarding suicide programs, substance abuse programs, and prevention.

Data shows connections to dating violence through lack of support and feeling unsafe in schools.

Importance of meaningful relationship with an adult as a protective factor is highlighted.

Students who admitted to experiencing dating violence also had dips in academic performance, and were less likely to attend school

Questions/comments/reactions:

How many students? 1600

RI Department of Health is oversampling Providence.

Ellen is working on grant 2021-2023 YRBS for middle and high

Margaret - suggests statistical report on how many students are experiencing more than one, measure the overlaps

Gail - SurveyWorks data—a broad area has SEL components that we can utilize to look at by school, grade, and district

Also can look at anxiety, not feeling safe

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

9. Comments from the Community/Guests -

Due to time constraints, a motion was made to remove item number nine.

MSV- Messier, Wetherill (13-0) MOTION APPROVED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. Announcements -

Karin- Friday, important RI KidsCount policy brief on obesity

First time to have clinical data project with DOH and Hassenfeld Foundation through BCBS.

Data from medical providers

American Heart Association sponsoring Girls' STEM Event

Happening April 6, half day free workshop bringing in scientists, medical professionals for girls only.

April is National Sexual Assault Awareness month.

April 25, second annual H&W fair in the evening at Gilbert Stuart Middle School

Provide tables for any community partners who are interested.

May 9 - state organization presenting at State House

****Bobby: Add 15 more minutes to meeting to address everything in future meetings?**

ADJOURN

12. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 PM

MSV – Reed, Grossi (13-0) MOTION APPROVED