



MINUTES

Providence School Board Health & Wellness Committee Meeting

797 Westminster Street

Providence, RI 02903

May 22, 2019

CONVENE MEETING

1. Call Meeting to Order - Committee Chair Robert Gondola called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Robert Gondola, Committee Chair

Linda Grossi, HPE Teacher Gilbert Stuart/Physical Health Subcommittee Co-Chair

Joyce Bernau-Enriquez, Central High School teacher & student at Salve Regina University

Karin Wetherill, Co-Director of the RI Healthy Schools Coalition

Gail Mastropietro, PPSD Social Emotional Learning Coordinator/Lead School Psychologist

Solight Sou, PPSD Wellness Coordinator

Jennifer Quigley-Harris, PASA & RIHSC /Healthy Relationships Subcommittee Co-Chair

Rachel Newman Greene, City of Providence Healthy Communities Office

Jennifer Schwarz, School-Based Clinical Administrator, FSRI

Joanna Raymond, URI SNAP-Ed

Jorge Cardenas, Sodexo Director of Community Relations

Myrese Nochomowitz, Manager at Sodexo

Yamil Rivas, senior at Classical High School

Nellie de Goguel, Health and Sustainability Program Associate

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Approve Agenda as presented
3. Approval of Minutes – March 27, 2019

A motion was made to approve items two and three as one vote

MSV – Mastropietro, Grossi (14-0) MOTION APPROVED

COMMENTS AND SCHOOL UPDATES

4. Welcome and introduction
Chairman Gondola welcomed all attendees and introductions were made.
5. Classical High School - Holistic Health
Yamil Rivas – shared a holistic health approach at Classical High School. Prior to this initiative, a group of students had a discussion on how to alleviate stress and remove obstacles at school for both students and teachers. They did research, watched a TED Talk and completed a survey. This led to a trial on meditation class once a week, and yoga classes integrated with the Midnight

Waffle club. These activities are run by an Art teacher and other faculty. Average attendance was about 10 or more individuals per class. The Alumni association was also interested.

Gondola- Asked Rivas what recommendations or areas of support do her and her peers need.

Rivas- The wellness policy and other resources for students don't reach the students. She encouraged the committee to include the four youth organizations, which she is part of. Rivas has mentioned that students are unaware about mental health services at the school. There was incident pertaining to transgender discrimination and racism which highlighted that there needs to be more education in those areas.

Gondola- Thanked Rivas for her time and he made note of what she spoke on, especially on restorative practices, transphobia and racism awareness. He'll include the four youth organizations: PSU, Young Voices, New Urban Arts, and Youth In Action to share the resources guide and for input related to health and wellness.

6. Comments from the Community/Guests
Continued due to time constrain.

Yamil Rivas left the meeting

PRESENTATION

7. Mayor's Office of Sustainability Presentation
Nellie de Goguel, Health and Sustainability Program Associate - Presented the work of the Office of Sustainability, their current involvement in schools, and how they can better support one another.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

8. Physical Health & Nutrition Subcommittee Update
Grossi- Still reviewing current goal. Received \$100K grant for fitness center at Gilbert Stuart Middle School, and the grand opening is in September. There is a four-minute video she wanted to share, but due to lack of time, Gondola requested that she share a link via e-mail.
9. Healthy Relationships Subcommittee Update
Quigley-Harris - Over 40 active members attend the meeting. Mission and goal statement to be added to the top of all minutes as a template for subcommittee reference. Emails and names list created for communication internally, and attendees to check their name as they attend meetings. There a grid created to keep track of notes, actions, goals and involvement.

Resources guide promotion printed as 4x6 card. Engaged students- student awareness, social media, and video.

Gondola- Asked Quigley-Harris to share her template with Solight Sou so that there a system and central place for the committee to share material, capture action, and goal tracking. He envisioned it as a dash board, which can be stored in Google drive where the committee can access, give further thoughts, and for goal measurement.

10. Social Emotional Subcommittee Update
Mastropietro – Retirement from PPSD, and a replacement of co-chair was briefly mentioned.

Campaign:

There was a focus group conducted in high schools to understand students' need.

Students learned about resources only when crises arise.

Continue to create campaigns that address student's interest.

Focus on school clubs is an important place for SEL campaigning.

Updated:

- First Mental First Aid training for 16 people from the district in June.
- Restorative Practices training for the faculty- August and September for selected schools.
- No Bully training- Seventeen schools participated, and will expand to five more schools for next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

11. Announcements

Gondola - Updated on food services RFP subcommittee's top 10 priorities and recommendations which were included in the Food Service Management Contract (FSMC). The Board agreed that this body- the Health and Wellness -Food Services RFP Subcommittee- is vital in supporting, reviewing, and evaluating the progress of food services contract.

The Board approved and recommend Sodexo as the district's food services vendor and to move forward with the RI Department of Education food services contracting process.

In the near the future, FSMC (Sodexo) will comes before this committee for review and recommendations on progress.

Nochomowitz – Manager at Sodexo, has background in nutrition and public health. A key person working to champion the recommendation. Will be meeting with Solight Sou for wellness related matters.

Gondola – recognized Mastropietro and thanked her for an exceptional service to the district.

ADJOURN

12. Adjourn Meeting

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

MSV – Mastropietro, Newman Greene (13-0) MOTION APPROVED