

Hitchcock

Independent School District

Minutes from SHAC Meeting-- November 1, 2017

Minutes

- I. The meeting was called to order by District SHAC Liaison—Kathy Potts, RN at 10:00am
- II. Members present were recognized. They were Kathy Potts, Jazmine Johnston, Jayden Preston, Esteban Garza, Darlene Blackwell, Russell Mawby, Hayley Vineyard, Katrina Cruz and a guest speaker, Mr. Robert Berkhart.

Prior to the regular meeting, Mr Berhart from RightWay Imaging spoke to the SHAC committee about employee wellness and presented his company’s eight point screening for detecting diseases that are asymptomatic. The cost is \$159 and open to all employees, spouses, and elderly parents or adult children.

Mr. Berkhart is also checking with his supervisor about the possibility of doing EKGs for our athletes during Spring Physicals.

- III. Many members were not able to attend due to prior commitments. This meeting replaced our regularly scheduled meeting that was canceled due to Hurricane Harvey.
- IV. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.
- V. Old Business—**Nutrition**--members commented on the improvement of the variety and appearance of the cafeteria food from each campus. Student members, state that overall the food served had more variety and the taste had improved over last year.
- VI. A Mission statement for our SHAC committee was formulated and approved by all members.
 - a. The mission of the Hitchcock ISD School Health Advisory Council is to bring to reality the philosophy that “Healthier Students are Better Learners”. It is more effective to teach health habits to children and young adults than it is to undo unhealthy habits. Therefore, the focus of this committee is to bring forth ideas, design plans, and ensure that our community members can join forces with the school to support the knowledge and skills young people need to be healthy, productive, and contributing members of society.

V. New Business

1. Dress code—student members asked for an assembly on dress code or a picture flyer that addressed all the dress code infractions. Student members also asked that faculty and staff be consistent with warnings, ISS and other consequences regarding dress code. I reminded members that we were to address those topics under Health Services. After reading the eight components to the members the next two topics were brought up.

2. Bullying—A growing concern within the district is bullying between students. Students feel that teachers and administrators are not taking their reports of bullying seriously. Students are concerned at the level at which cyber bullying and social media sites (ex: Instagram Hitchcock Shade) are being used. Students are not seeing immediate and tough action taken with bullying. In many cases bullying has turned into the victim taking matters into their own hands. Frequent verbal and physical fighting, students emotionally upset, seeking a safe haven, isolating themselves during lunch, fighting to stand their ground when they have never had to resort to violence to solve differences. Student members say that students are not reporting it because nothing is being done. Kathy Potts, RN suggested a student assembly with a professional presenter, “Aim for Success” would be contacted to offer some guidance and address the problem.

3. Discipline Management—all members had something to say about the topic of discipline. All members, teachers, parents and students alike felt that “there is one set of rules for Athletes and another set of rules for everyone else.” Athletes are disciplined by their respective coaches and kept out of the mainstream administrative discipline guidelines. Regular students with the same infraction are held strictly to the District Discipline guidelines. Student and adult members agreed that this practice could be potentially, if not already, controversial and viewed as unfair. Several examples were given by students, faculty and parents in attendance. Three of the four students on the committee are in UIL Sports and stated, “Consequences given out by a couch are running or push ups.” Consequences given by administrators include suspension, ISS, arrests, DAEP, and detention. “Those have real impact.” The athletes on the committee stated, “if just one athlete were kept from playing in a game on the day of the infraction, disqualified from competing, or not allowed to attend a function, that they felt their actions and behavior would improve” and, “the regular student body would feel as though their concerns had been taken seriously.” Russell Mawby also suggested a faculty meeting to include coaches and teachers on the High School Campus to address concerns.

4. Committee members were asked to take the worksheet in their packet and answer the questions about our school district and community. Students were asked to present in writing for the next meeting, whether that felt safe at school, why or why not? Committee members were to come up

with a solution to help improve those things they had given negative responses to on the questionnaire for the next meeting.

5. The next meeting was set for Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 10:00am.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am by Kathy Potts, RN