

School Health Advisory Council Meeting: January 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm

Members Present: Stephaine Camarillo, Ken Elliott, Bethany Estrada, Jaclyn Keller, Maria Rios, Lenaya Robinson, Claudia Valle, Shalaina Walker, Shelly Weber, Chase Lore, Emily Bacom, Marissa Mendez, Nicole Burnett

Guest present: Ty Davidson—Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Claudia Gasponi—Hays-Caldwell County Women’s Center, Caldwell County Prevention Educator

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Jaclyn Keller to accept the minutes of the November 14, 2022 meeting as written, seconded by Ken Elliott.

Discussion of Curriculum for Senate Bill 9 Requirements

The members were presented with a document which included the required middle school TEKS about child abuse, dating violence, family violence and sex trafficking that are covered by the Living Well Aware curriculum and Big Decisions curriculum. These two curricula have been approved by the SHAC and the Board of Trustees to be used for human sexuality instruction and the district is recommending that these two curricula also be used to meet the requirements for child use, dating violence, family violence and sex trafficking.

Dr. Ken Elliott, Director of Mental Health for Lockhart ISD, spoke about the TEKS requirements for elementary school regarding child abuse prevention education. The district is recommending that this requirement be covered by a program from the Center for Child Protection called Speak Up Be Safe. The program consists of two sessions that are developmentally appropriate for the grade levels 3-5. The program is grant funded and will be free for the district. The Center for Child Protection staff come to the schools to present the materials to the students. The district will be responsible to have a counselor or another responsible staff member present as well.

Shelly Weber reminded the SHAC members that parents will need to opt their students in for them to receive this instruction, just like the requirement for the parent permission to receive human sexuality instruction. Parents will be able to review the materials.

Dr. Ken Elliott introduced Claudia Gasponi, Hays-Caldwell Women’s Center (HCWC), Caldwell County Prevention Educator. Dr. Elliott and Ms. Gasponi presented the curriculum from the HCWC called Healthy Relationships which addresses dating violence and family violence. Ms. Gasponi will be providing the instruction to the students and a district counselor or responsible school staff will be present in the classroom as well. The eight-lesson dating violence instruction and one-lesson family violence instruction is recommended for the 9th and 11th grade levels. The lessons are one hour in length, but can be tailored to meet the needs of Lockhart ISD. This program is grant funded and is free to the district. Ms. Gasponi provided the SHAC members with the outline of the lessons and a hard copy of the slides included in the curriculum was passed around the room for review. Ms. Gasponi stated that the Healthy Relationships curriculum is based off of the My Rights My Life curriculum from SAFE Austin. Members suggested additional topics such as sexting and cyberbullying be added to the curriculum. The district is planning to implement this instruction this school year.

A special public meeting will be needed before the SHAC can proceed with a vote on the curriculum to meet the requirements for Senate Bill 9. The members decided to meet by Zoom on Tuesday 17th, 2023 at 5 pm to continue the discussion and vote. Following this meeting, the SHAC recommendation will be brought before the Lockhart ISD School Board.

Shelly Weber shared with the members that the district is in the process of adopting a health textbook. Ty Davidson shared that district staff met on November 29th to review and decide on a health textbook to adopt. Funds to purchase the textbook will be coming from the State of Texas. The health textbook will be used to cover the middle school health TEKS that are required but not covered by Living Well Aware and Big Decisions. The district is recommending the textbook Goodheart-Willcox which covers 100% of TEKS.

Discussion of Puberty/Maturation Education for grades 4th and 5th

Shelly Weber notified the SHAC members that the curriculum covering puberty and maturation needs to be looked at and possibly updated. Currently, the district covers this information at the end of the 4th grade year. The district has used Always Changing from Proctor and Gamble. The instructional video has been removed from the Proctor and Gamble website, however it is still available on YouTube. The new health TEKS require that this instruction be presented in 4th and 5th grades. Ms. Weber asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to evaluate the curriculum options.

SHAC Officers

The members were notified that the SHAC is needing a parent co-chair. Marissa Mendez volunteered to serve in the role. The SHAC voted unanimously to accept Ms. Mendez as co-chair.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm

Future Meetings:

February 13, 2023

April 10, 2023