



San Juan Unified School District

WSSC Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2023
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

WSSC Committee Meeting: The purpose of this committee is to ensure that all students in San Juan Unified School District have access to resources in the areas of nutrition, mental health, physical health, bullying prevention and substance use prevention.

Meeting Facilitator: Gaylon Johnson

Invitees: Dominic Covello, Sneh Nair, Paula Villescuz, Monika Howard, Christina Sparks, Teri Hofstetter, Julie Klinger, Ian Goodman, Jeff Banks, Greta Scholtes, Aaron Silberman, Natalia Aguirre, Robyn Caruso, Holly Walsh, Clarissa Alva, Michelle Fischer, Paulette Erfert, Derek Stevenson, Kelli Seidel, Lori Ruegg, Sandra Butorac, Gary Coartney, David Moore, Natalee Dyudyuk, Jordan Grimaldi, Katheryn Canepa, Tarah Martin, Eileen Kirk, Sharon Goodman, Vanessa Valenzuela, Kelly Grady, Joela Russell, Evelyn Margolin, Mariejoy Mendoza-Riess

I. Welcome/Introductions

Attended: Gaylon Johnson, Teri Hofstetter, Joella Russell, Robyn Caruso, Vanessa Valenzuela, Eileen Kirk, Christina Sparks, Kelly Grady, Sharon Goldman, Natalee Dyudyuk, Kelli Seidel, Evelyn Margolin, Jordan Grimaldi

II. Department/Program Updates

Gaylon Johnson: Gaylon explained that Prevention Programs is wrapping up programs at the end of the month. Teen Intervene has supported more than 100 students with substance use referrals. TUPE clubs are finishing their end of the year projects promoting tobacco and vape prevention education and the Youth Leadership Committee is planning our end of the year student recognition. California Healthy Kids Survey was launched March and will remain open through the end of April and possibly part of May. He will be preparing a comparison of prior years presentation for next fall or winter. Last time we met Gaylon was applying for the new TUPE grant, working with grant writer Robyn Caruso. They worked on the application for 6 weeks and were approved for the next three years.

Christina Sparks: Christina followed Gaylon about the Youth Leadership Committee's end of the year plans adding May 23rd as the target date and location to be determined. Christina has two student club groups, San Juan Youth

Advocates and SWAV (students with a voice). Both programs promote youth engagement while working on special projects in areas of alcohol and drug prevention. Christina also coordinates the district's Listening Sessions, which are designed to hear what students have to say about certain topics. Students expressed many bullying obstacles and school safety issues. Christina is also applying for a new grant cycle and has begun the application process. Christina hopes to hire staff this summer of next fall to help expand programs.

Vanessa Valenzuela: Vanessa shared updates for bullying prevention programs. Vanessa facilitated an all-day "kindness matters" workshop at Tomas Edison. Currently working with community partners improving relationships and learning more about their programs. Also working with SCOE and Thomas Edison to complete annual survey that aligns with the bullying prevention grant we receive from SCOE. Looking forward to getting a good start next school year by preparing during June and August.

Teri Hofstetter: Still hiring for Nutrition Services, hoping to fill vacancies by next school year. Teri has been working on policy edits and Administration Regulations for school sites to use as a reference tool for proper and improper use of foods brought from home as well as guidelines to follow about the sales of foods at school events, or /and on school sites.

Kelli Seidel: Developing student and staff focus groups to help improve nutrition education. So far everything looks good and should be ready to roll out in the fall of 2023.

III. Evelyn Margolin – School/Community Gardens in SJUSD

Evelyn Margolin: Evelyn introduced herself and mentioned she is a retired San Juan teacher and former WSCC member, working at Cameron Ranch conducting healthy foods classes to students using their community garden. She runs her classes in the garden with students and sees the potential to expand this educational program throughout San Juan schools. She is aware of grants and funding which she has applied for and currently receives to help with supplies for the community garden at Cameron Ranch. Connected with Gaylon to attend WSCC meeting for ideas and who to talk to about expanding.

Gaylon Johnson: Mentions communicating with Evelyn and had talked to Sneh Nair, Director of Nutrition Services and Sneh wanted Evelyn to call her.

Teri Hofstetter: Wants Evelyn to contact her to begin talking about ideas and where to possibly begin. Expressed why Sneh could not make it to this meeting,

Evelyn Margolin was very appreciative of the committee giving her the time to speak and will be contacting Teri soon. Both exchanged contact information.

IV. TUPE (Tobacco Use Prevention Education) Grant Update

Gaylon Johnson: As mentioned earlier San Jaun will be funded for tobacco use prevention education from Fall of 2023 to through Spring of 2026. Thanks Robyn Caruso and Debbie Middleton for their team effort.

Robyn Caruso: Thanks Gaylon and mentions she is now working with Christina Sparks applying for the next LCCSP grant for student engagement.

V. Spring 2023 California Healthy Kids Survey

Gaylon Johnson: Administration began February 27 and was supposed to end on March 30th. Extensions are granted to sites struggling to finish during that time frame. The survey is for 6th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grade students only and schools must send an introductory letter, with an opt-out or opt-in option to all parents of students in these grades. All materials were sent to site administration or a designated contact one month prior to the start date. The CHKS is used to help schools and district prevention programs assess what needs each has in areas of substance use and bullying.

VI. Wellness Policy Updates

a. Policy and Admin Regulations

Teri Hofstetter: Sneh found additional items needed for the Wellness Policy and therefore it has not been approved to go forth to the board yet. The Admin Regulations are ready and approved by Legal to go forth for Board approval with the Wellness Policy by late May or early June.

b. Principals Guide for Food/Fundraisers

Gaylon Johnson: Teri sent Gaylon a rough draft of the principal's guide. Gaylon really liked it and shared a copy with the group. Everyone liked it and those who attended the WSCC subcommittee meeting in October remembered looking at other districts Principal's guides and thought this one is very quality in comparison.

Teri Hofstetter: Reminded everyone the final will need to be approved too before sending to sites.

VII. School Site Assessments

Questionnaire/Survey Questions

Gaylon Johnson: Site assessment survey is live and ready for sites to participate. Gaylon worked with Christie Benevides in Evaluations and Assessments who helped develop the survey as well as submitting a writ-up in Behing the Scenes.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned