

Minutes of the School Health Advisory Council

Thursday, December 7, 2023

The meeting of the Texarkana Independent School District School Health Advisory Council was called to order at 11:00 am by district representative, Jennell Ingram. After a brief welcome and acknowledgement of the new parents and others who were present, a call was made for approval of the agenda for the day. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Brittney Harper (a parent) and seconded by ShaRonda Sutton. The motion was approved and the meeting began.

The first item of business was a presentation by Dr. Young, emergency physician and owner of the Texarkana Emergency Center. In compliance with SB629, which states, "Sec.38.222- Maintenance, administration and disposal of opioid antagonists. (a) Each school district shall adopt and implement a policy regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonist at each campus in the district that serves students in grades 6-12 and may adopt and implement such a policy at each campus in the district, including campuses serving students in a grade level below grade 6.

Heather Spohn, Coordinator of Health Services introduced Dr. Young, Chief medical expert for Bowie County. Dr. Young and members of Life Net discussed the misuse of opioids in our county and what measures are being used to address overdose situations. Shawn Vaughn, a member of the Texarkana Police Department and council member, also contributed to the presentation.

Following discussion and a question and answer session, the meeting continued following the approved agenda. The next agenda item was the approval of the district wellness plan. Christie Lammers, Director of Child Nutrition, led the discussion and provided an opportunity for questions. With no further discussion or questions, a motion was put forth by LaTonya McGary and seconded by Valerie DuPriest that the wellness plan be approved. The motion was carried unanimously.

During the next agenda item, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Christy Tidwell gave an overview and status report on the implementation of the Esteem and Great Body Shop health curriculum. Ms. Tidwell reported an error in the administration of a pre-survey at two schools. Due to the mistake made, the district has sent a written request to the state grant funding source and have opted out of the pre and post student surveys. **No student at any TISD school will take a survey before or after the curriculum is taught.** The curriculum remains an opt-in decision for parents for lessons 10-14, which some consider sensitive information. Students will only get this information if their parents sign to opt the student into the lessons. All lessons are presented by TISD staff members who have been trained in the scripted curriculum. No sensitive topics are included in the student workbooks.

After some discussion and a question and answer series by parents, a motion was called for the district to continue with the Esteem curriculum. A motion was made by Brittney Harper and seconded by Ty'Quan Black. The motion carried.

Ms. Ingram gave a brief statement of membership recruitment efforts, which included contacting campus VIPS representatives who then refer parents. A membership notice has also been added to the district website and the SHAC page on the district website. The meeting ended with a call for agenda items for the next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, February 8th, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 12:03 Respectfully submitted,

Jennell Ingram, Coordinator of Academic Affairs