

# Family Life Advisory Committee

Agenda: 9/28/23

5:00 pm to 6:30 pm



- Sign-in and Introductions
- Review Purpose and Guidelines
- Vote on Positions (Chairperson and Secretary)
- Establish Protocols and Norms
- Review Lessons/Materials/Topics from Previous Committee
- Discuss Future Topics

## Future Family Life Advisory Committee Dates:

11/30/23

2/8/24

4/18/24

## Family Life Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 9/28/2023, 5:00 – 6:30

- Meeting began with a review of the purpose and guidelines for the committee.
- Committee voted on positions for the term
  - **Bryan Thompson voted Chair**
  - **Kelly Guest voted Vice Chair**
  - **Shannon Hinkhaus voted Secretary**
- Steve Wernick briefly addressed meeting norms.
- This meeting was the first meeting held with new committee members. Steve Wernick began by reviewing a little of what we did last year with the framework. This year we will need to focus more on elementary school planning.
- Steve also brought up the fact that there was an error on the MSDE framework sent to all middle school parents (a couple of words were omitted). The CCPS framework that was sent out was correct. He said that the MSDE framework would have to be re-sent to those middle school parents who have children taking health this fall.
- Donna Sivigny asked how many parents have responded and 18% was the answer. Parents will have until Sunday 10/1 to respond. After Sunday, anyone who has not responded will be contacted by the school. Health teachers will try 3 times to get permission back. Office staff will support health teachers with reaching out. Paper forms will be sent out after 10/1. If we never get a response, the student will default to the MSDE lessons.

### Discussions regarding Health II

- Christine Tobias provided a video for the committee to view for Health II for the condom demonstration lesson under the MSDE framework. The video would be shown the day of the gender lesson. It was noted that the CCPS framework states that a condom will be displayed not demonstrated. Kelly Guest asked to reiterate that we are abstinence based and asked how often abstinence is mentioned. Kelli Hurst said that she mentions abstinence every class per Carroll County standards. Emily Bush asked how the students will split for the two different frameworks. The permanent sub will do an alternate assignment with CCPS framework students and MSDE students will stay with the health teacher, this would only be for one lesson. Enough standards overlap that they can be taught together for all but one lesson. Conception is taught to all students. Discussion of the video and other possible sources of a video ensued. Christine said that other resources were available from Planned Parenthood and they would cover female condoms and dental dams while this video does not. The

possibility of creating something with the local health department that is more comprehensive was discussed. Donna Sivigny suggested amending the recommendation to use the video and work on something with the health department.

- **Motion to use the video was approved with plans to search for another video or work on creating something with the health department.**
- Christine Tobias then showed the committee a birth control pack and noted that they pull out all of the pills with hormones for in class display under both the CCPS and MSDE frameworks.
- Committee discussed the IUD and how it is presented to students as something they may need down the road, just general information. The teachers also discuss other reasons people may use birth control. Negative side effects are absolutely covered as well.
- One committee member asked why we do not use Planned Parenthood resources if they have so much content to offer. Christine Tobias explained that it is because our approach is for Sexual Risk Avoidance (SRA) while Planned Parenthood's approach is for Sexual Risk Reduction (SRR).
  - **Motion to approve the display box and all were in favor.**

#### Discussions regarding lesson review for grades 6-12

- There was much discussion about the vocabulary and definition sources used in the proposed lessons. Specifically, the term "Sex assigned at birth" was discussed and noted that the definition came from the Mayo Clinic. Another definition was found from Boston Medical. The consensus was that that definition was preferred and Christine said that it would be changed.
- Steve Whisler emphatically said that he does not want discussions in the classroom to begin around queer theory and political philosophy. He would like to stick to the facts and wants teacher feedback. He believes theoretical concepts don't belong in K-12 schools. Bill Vandegrift addressed that and said the standard answer to a student wanting to delve into those discussions is to say "go talk to your parents". Steve emphasized that academics needs to be the focus, not philosophy.
- The meeting was running longer than anticipated and we did not scratch the surface on reviewing the lessons. Committee can take them home to review and reach out with suggested changes, although the lessons will begin in about three weeks. We will have lessons for elementary students to discuss at future meetings.
- Reminder for the next meeting to be held November 30<sup>th</sup>. Motion to adjourn.

