



**MINUTES OF SUSD Sex Ed Advisory Committee
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48
SUSD Mohave District Annex 8500 E. Jackrabbit Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250**

Date: May 8, 2024 Time: 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Attendance

Committee Members Present:

- In Person: Steve Struzyk, Ashley Katikos, Susan Leonard, Joe Olney, Dr. Elizabeth Schmied, Colleen Abrams, Leslie Sharp, Shannon Wall, Dr. Kaveh Najafi, Renee Tosto, Amy Carney, Julie Cieniawski and Dr. Karen Benson

Supporting team members in attendance: Michelle Irvin, Dede Johnston, and Susan Aguayo

1. Welcome

- Dr. Karen Benson welcomed all to the fifth meeting of the Advisory Committee and gave a shout-out to teachers and nurses serving on the committee given May 8 is National Nurse's Day and May 7-11 is National Teacher Appreciation Week.

2. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM.

3. Roll call

- Committee members introduced themselves again by name and role and responded to one of the team building prompts provided.

4. Approval of Agenda

- **Action** – Dr. Benson motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Leslie Sharp and approved by a vote of 10-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

- **Action** – Dr. Benson again shared the Attorney General's counsel for committee meeting minutes: "though the minutes do not need to be a verbatim transcript of the meeting to satisfy this requirement, they must summarize the discussion, including the topics addressed, and identify all speakers who participated in the discussion, including members of the public body." She invited committee members to review the minutes of the previous meeting for accuracy. No revisions were requested. Dr. Kaveh Najafi

motioned to approve the minutes of the April 17 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Elizabeth Schmied and approved by a vote of 10-0.

6. Brief Review Committee Norms

- Dr. Benson celebrated the positivity of the committee work thus far and asked the committee to again review and agree to adhere to the recommended norms to guide successful committee work.

7. Review Communications Received from Public

- Dr. Benson distributed hard copies of the feedback received from 5 parents/community members – clarifying the feedback was received through the Sex Ed Advisory Committee email or through the feedback forms submitted by parents/community members when reviewing resources at the MDA.
- Those submitting feedback include:
Jonathan Hohle – Commented on *Making Proud Choices*, *Marsh Media*, *Always Changing and Growing*, and provided feedback on the system for reviewing materials at the MDA
Kortney Hohle – Commented on *Choosing the Best* and *Positive Prevention Plus*
Jill Dunican – Commented on *Positive Prevention Plus* and *Glencoe Health & Wellness*
Mike Bengert – Commented on *Reducing the Risk* and *Always Changing and Growing*
Rebekah Page – Commented on *Choosing the Best*
- Dr. Benson clarified, per guidance shared by legal counsel, interested community members/persons can request access to the feedback by submitting a public records request.
- Committee member Joe Olney asked if those submitting feedback are aware that resources we've made available for public review have not yet been vetted by the committee. Committee member Susan Leonard asked if parents are aware of this, too. Dr. Benson clarified that the viewing station at the MDA states that all materials received have been made available to parents, staff and community members – as a purposeful act to invite parents, staff, and community members as partners in this work.
- Committee member Olney asked if future legislation or board action could impact the recommendations of the committee. Dr. Benson confirmed that, yes, both could impact the recommendation, and that while the advisory committee is tasked with recommending a proposed course of study and resources to support the course of study -- the Governing Board has the authority to approve/not approve the recommended course of study after reviewing lessons and resources.
- Member Olney asked about the next steps that will follow the work of the committee – to ensure specific lessons or content in any recommended resource will be further vetted to make certain that all content shared is in step with legislative expectations. Dr. Benson ensured that this will be the case - clarifying that the final committee's recommendations will be specific about the content from the resources that will be included in the course of study.

8. Review and Discussion: Evaluation of Resources/Materials Submitted.

- Committee members were asked to break into subgroups and talk through their ratings/evaluations of the resources submitted. Committee members were invited to revise or add to evaluation rubrics if they learned of concerns or advantages specific to a resource during this collaborative time, given the volume of content included with some of the resources submitted.

- Committee members met in subgroups for approximately 20 minutes to discuss rubric ratings. When subgroup discussions concluded, members submitted completed rubrics to Dede Johnston and Michele Irvin for tallying. [Given a technology snag that delayed totalling the results, Dr. Benson invited subgroups to begin to review the initial course of study based on legislation and early recommendations from the committee -- and identify adjustments or additions to the course of study.]
- Dr. Benson shared that resources receiving highest overall scores on the rubrics included:
Grade 5: *Positive Prevention Plus* and *Always Changing and Growing*
Grade 7: *Choosing the Best*
Grade 9: *Choosing the Best*
- Dr. Benson invited each subgroup to share highlights about the resources receiving the highest scores. Feedback shared included:
 - Elementary/Grade 5: Dr. Kaveh Najafi shared that the two resources receiving the highest scores vary in depth and complexity, indicating that content in *Positive Prevention Plus* is more advanced than the content from *Always Changing and Growing*. Renee Tosto shared that it was more difficult to review the resources from *Positive Prevention Plus*. The advisory committee will review the scores in each area on the rubrics in further detail at the final meeting to determine a best resource for grade five.
 - Middle Level/Grade 7: Dr. Elizabeth Schmied shared that *Choosing the Best* is well-developed, medically accurate, engaging for students, and user friendly for teachers/facilitators. Leslie Sharp asked if it is still an option to consider outside help to facilitate the lessons at the middle level (i.e. the services offered with Maricopa County). Dr. Benson clarified the committee can still include the need for additional support in facilitation, but at this time Maricopa County has only two people in this role.
 - High School/Grade 9: Colleen Abrams shared one of the factors that stood out in the *Choosing the Best* resource is its ease of use given content is broken into lessons and videos to allow specific content to be selected – indicating ease of use for teachers was a priority in consideration.
 - All subgroups indicated a need to consider a social media supplement to the resources to complete the course of study – and that further attention is needed to ensure our proposed course of study recognizes the needs of exceptional learners as is expected in AZ legislation.

9. Discussion and Continued Work: SUSL Course of Study:

- Committee members were asked to continue reviewing and discussing the initial draft of the proposed course of study – identifying a member to record comments and revisions on a hard copy of the document. Subgroups reported very little change from the initial course of study – given the need to ensure our proposed course of study meets all legislative expectations as reflected in our initial course of study.
- Subgroups turned in their recommendations/revisions and Dr. Benson shared that she'd make the proposed revisions and bring them back to the committee to review and offer final revisions prior to approving at the final Advisory Committee meeting.

10. Review and Discussion: Next Steps/Schedule for Committee Work, Public Hearings, and 60-day Public Review of recommended Resources and Course of Study.

- Dr. Benson shared that the committee will need to add an additional meeting to wrap up our work for 23-24. Tentative agenda topics identified for a final meeting include:
 - Approving resources identified by each small group -- Action
 - Reviewing/Finalizing Course of Study -- Action
 - Providing feedback on the committee process, and
 - Indicating preference to continue/reconvene 2024-25

11. Update to SUSd Governing Board

- Dr. Benson recommended moving the Informational update planned for June 11, 2024 to the June 25, 2024 Governing Board meeting. This date change will be noted on the Sex Ed Advisory Committee page on the SUSd Committee Hub website.
- Dr. Benson indicated that dates for the 60 day public review period, two public hearings (required during the 60 day review period), and first and second reads at Governing Board meetings can be finalized as soon as the Governing Board approves the schedule for Board meetings for the 24-25 SY. Determining Governing Board Meetings for 24-25 is an agenda item at the May 14 Governing Board meeting next week.

12. Next Committee Meeting Agenda – if needed

- The bulk of Advisory Committee members indicated availability on Monday, June 10, 2024, from 4 pm – 6 pm as the date and time for an additional meeting to wrap up our work for the 23-24 SY. Committee members will have the option to attend in person at the MDA or remotely via a Teams link. This additional meeting will be noted on the Sex Ed Advisory Committee page on SUSd's Committee Hub website.

Adjournment:

- Member Joe Olney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:48. The motion was seconded by Colleen Abrams and approved by a vote of 10 to 0.

Dated Posted: May 10, 2024