

**Personal Health and Sexuality Education Advisory Board
Okemos Public Schools – Okemos Public Montessori Library
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Personal Health and Sexuality Education Advisory Board was called to order by President Stacey Tanay at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Brett Meteyer, Michele Borgialli, Jill Dehlin, Stephanie Fleming, Mary Graham, Tami Hiser, Lisa Smith and Stacey Tanay.

Members Absent: Rabbi Amy Bigman, Susanna Joy, Melissa Ortiz, Heather Paris, Emma Pipper, and Alec Thornburg.

Administration: Assistant Principal Melissa Eades, Assistant Principal Andrea Hallead and Assistant Superintendent for Instruction John Hood.

MOVED by Stephanie Fleming, SUPPORTED by Michele Borgialli, that the board approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 9, 2017.

AYE: 10 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 6 **MOTION CARRIED**

Jill Dehlin reported on behalf of the elementary buildings. The Okemos Public Schools website has been updated and we are ready for parent preview. It was suggested that the “Meet the Board” documents are updated and uploaded to the new website. Jill will send guidelines for member bios to PHASE board members. Information regarding parent preview will be sent to families very soon. The elementary schools teach the curriculum in the spring.

Kinawa Assistant Principal Andrea Hallead reported on behalf of Kinawa 5/6 School. Kinawa has been working on parent preview information. There will be an in-person preview offered at Kinawa during Parent/Teacher Conferences as well as an online preview. Reproductive health lessons will be taught during November and December as opposed to the spring to avoid interfering with MSTEP testing. Jill recently met with PE Teachers Bob Clark, Melissa Marks and Assistant Principal Andrea Hallead regarding Jill co-teaching this school year with Bob and new PE Teacher Sheree Jungwirth. Since there are no teacher inservice opportunities available this year for the curriculum, it was decided that it would be more valuable for Sheree to co-teach with Jill as opposed to participating in an in-service. Sheree will participate in the sex education training in January 2018. The group also discussed teaching the first three lessons of the curriculum to genders apart vs. together as teaching together helps meet the guidelines of the equity plan; however, the lessons regarding the reproductive systems should still be taught separately. No decisions will be made until after discussion with the school board.

John Hood reported on behalf of Chippewa Middle School. Chippewa welcomed new Assistant Principal Andre Ridley this school year. John Hood and Andrea Hallead recently met with him to discuss the 7th/8th grade reproductive health curriculum, online parent preview and opt-out letter to parents. A need for curriculum summaries for the 7th/8th grade was discovered in their conversation. Jill will work with Michele Borgialli on lesson synopses for grades 7, 8, and 9.

No report for Okemos High School.

Jill Dehlin reported on behalf of Special Education. There is a new special education curriculum that has a “one-size fits all” approach. Jill plans to meet with Director of Special Education Heather Pricco and teachers to discuss if this is a good fit for our district. It was suggested to

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offer a parent letter for families of special education students with preview information similar to what we use in schools currently. John Hood suggested working within a committee to create a school checklist for reproductive health and sex education curriculum.

Jill Dehlin reported on the proposed 7th grade curriculum, “3Rs” from Advocates for Youth. This curriculum was reviewed last year by sub-committee, but approval was not in the minutes. It was suggested the board review the curriculum again before voting and approving at the next meeting. Videos have already been selected, voted on and approved.

The board viewed *Coping with Dating Violence and Abuse*, Human Relations Media (2015), 19 minutes for use at the high school. It was mentioned that there is lack of representation on same-sex couples in the video and perhaps teachers should offer a disclaimer or viewer warning before showing the video stating the nature of the content. Teachers should also be equipped with additional resources for students such as websites, hotlines or trusted adults they can speak to.

MOVED by Mary Graham, SUPPORTED by Stephanie Fleming, that the board approve the use of *Coping with Dating Violence and Abuse*, Human Relations Media (2015), 19 minutes, for use with high school students.

AYE: 10 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 6 **MOTION CARRIED**

In the spring of 2017, OPS held “Talk Early; Talk Often,” a program for parents of students in grades 6-12, about talking to children about difficult topics. This program will be held again this school year. We may also be a pilot location for an elementary program during the 2018-19 school year.

Jill Dehlin reported that when the 5th/6th grade reproductive lessons were taught last school year, there were many questions from 6th grade students regarding condoms and pregnancy prevention. There is one optional 6th grade lesson entitled “Preventing Pregnancy and STIs,” in the 6th grade Puberty: The Wonder Years Curriculum. Jill spoke with 5th/6th grade teachers who agreed that this lesson would be valuable to add to the curriculum for 6th graders. Jill suggested the board take home the lesson to review. We will vote on the lesson at the next meeting. Defining the basic functions of sexual intercourse in a developmentally-appropriate way for 4th grade students was discussed. The board will be looking at whether teachers should a.) refer questions about “how the sperm get to the egg:” to parent(s), b.) to answer only if asked, or c.) to provide the information to all students at the conclusion of the lesson..

The agenda item for parent and student survey result discussion will be tabled until the next meeting.

The agenda item for special education sexuality education – a new curriculum, will be tabled until the next meeting.

Jill Dehlin would like to form a work group to manage resources for parents on our website. She requested that members email her a list of resources that parents can utilize for information on our site.

Adjourn at 8:37 pm

Old Business:
Chippewa 7th
Grade
Curriculum

High School
Video: Coping
with Dating
Violence and
Abuse, Human
Relations
Media (2015),
19 mins.

Talk Early Talk
Often Parent
Program

New Business:
Proposed 6th
grade lesson on
Preventing
Pregnancy and
STDs

Parent and
Student Survey
Results

Call for work
groups

Adjourn