

School Health Advisory Council Meeting Minutes December 3, 2024

Members in Attendance

Community Members:

- Essence Castro (Co-Chair)
- Sharell Marlitz
- Monica Dean
- Brian O’Rear
- Elysia Ross
- Wendy Cowen
- Wendy Johnson
- Rob Paiva
- Angelica Gilbert-Williams

Guests:

- Todd LeCompte (SP)
- Elizabeth Bosquez, M.D.
- Linda Macias

District Committee Members:

- Emmy Durand
- Suzy Hunter
- Deborah Bartholomew
- Elaine Waier
- Celia Weaver
- Scott Hudson
- Franklin Sampson
- Angela Williams-Thomas
- Melinda Hood
- Chris Hecker

Facilitator:

- Christina Cole

Call to Order

Christina Cole called the meeting to order at 9:34AM.

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Led by Essence Castro
- Amendments to 11/14/24 meeting minutes
 - Natalie Blasingame was present at 11/14/24 meeting.
 - Sharell Marlitz attended 11/14/24 meetings as a Community Member, not a guest.
- Motion to approve as corrected: Brian O’Rear
- Second: Rob Pavia
- All in favor

Wellness Subcommittee Formation

Presented by Emmy Durand.

Emmy called for volunteers to join the new subcommittee. Members will need to be available for 2 to 3 Zoom meetings. The primary focus of the subcommittee is to form the Wellness Subcommittee and identify specific SMART goals to guide its work.

Volunteers:

Essence Castro
Monica Dean
Wendy Cowen

- Motion to approve formation of subcommittee:
Rob Pavia
- Second: Wendy Cowen
- All in favor

High School Health Education Requirement

Presented by Linda Macias.

The December school board agenda includes discussions about whether to keep Health I as a high school graduation requirement, eliminate it, or move it to an elective. There was a brief overview of the information shared during the last SHAC meeting regarding this vote.

Survey Results: Linda reviewed the results of the parent and student surveys.

Survey Distribution and Responses:

- Sent to 66,467 parents
- Successfully delivered to 64,231 parents
- 6,665 parents responded
- Over 33,000 student participants

A majority of parents (75%) support keeping Health I as a graduation requirement, though the support varies slightly between groups.

When it comes to moving Health I to an elective if it isn't a requirement, the majority of both parents and students (ranging from 77% to 81%) support this change.

Group	Keep Health I as Requirement	Move Health I to Elective
All Parents	75% (Yes), 25% (No)	77% (Yes), 23% (No)
Parents of High School Students	74% (Yes), 23% (No)	75% (Yes), 25% (No)
Parents of Middle School Students	75% (Yes), 25% (No)	78% (Yes), 22% (No)
High School Students	60% (Yes), 40% (No)	78% (Yes), 22% (No)
Middle School Students	58% (Yes), 42% (No)	81% (Yes), 19% (No)
All Students	59% (Yes), 41% (No)	79% (Yes), 21% (No)

Discussion: Linda also explained the topics covered in the Health I curriculum, responding to members' questions about the course content. These topics include, but are not limited to: decision making, goal setting, mental health, tobacco and alcohol prevention and treatment, body systems, physical activity, CPR.

The group also discussed the potential consequences of removing Health I as a graduation requirement. If the requirement is removed, students could choose from 5 classes including: Professional Communication, Photo Journalism, World Area Studies, Tech Systems Data.

A slide titled "Streamline Graduation Requirements: Remove Health as a Local Graduation Requirement" was presented to the group. It explained that if Health I were no longer a graduation requirement, there were pieces of content currently covered in the Health course that would still need to be taught through other parts of the curriculum.

Other ISD Comparisons:

7 districts require Health I as a graduation requirement. 5 districts don't require Health I but offer it as an elective. 5 districts do not offer Health I as a requirement or an elective.

SHAC Voting Discussion: Currently, there are 17 SHAC community members. 9 members were present for the meeting. Two members requested postponing the vote until more members could be available. However, it was determined that a quorum had been met, and the vote proceeded.

- Motion to recommend removing Health I as a requirement: Brian O'Rear
- Second: Rob Pavia
- **5 members voted for recommending removing Health I as a graduation requirement:** Brian O'Rear, Sharell Malitz, Elysia Ross, Rob Paiva, Monica Dean
- **4 members voted against recommending removing Health I as a graduation requirement:** Essence Castro, Angelica Gilbert-Williams, Wendy Johnson, Wendy Cowen

The motion to recommend removing Health I as a graduation requirement passed by a vote of 5 in favor, 4 against.

Next Steps: The school board will review the SHAC's recommendation at the December board meeting and decide on Health I's status as a graduation requirement.

Physical Education Subcommittee

Elaine invited new members to stay after the meeting's close to participate in the subcommittee meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting called for adjournment at 10:40AM.



Motion: Wendy Cowen
Second: Brian O'Rear

