School Health Advisory Council

SHERMAN
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 6. 2025 - SISD SHAC Meeting
Reid Kirk – Chairman
Casie Rivas – Co-Chairman
Christy Baca – Secretary
In attendance:
Reid Kirk
Thomas O'Neil
Justin Tollison (SHS AP)
Heath Wester
Amber Clark
Jenny Smucker
Sarah Pierce
Robert Rushing (former member + currently attending in place of Nada Krayem who is on maternity leave)
Casie Rivas

Student Representatives
London Wecker
Bella Wilkerson
Truman Smucker
Aiden Kirk

Reid Calls meeting to Order:
12:17 pm

Reid asked for approval of the last meeting minutes.
Jenny motion
Robert second
Minutes passed.

Reid reviewed that at the October meeting Chief Wester discussed prevalent issues that our students and community face.

- Jolene, vapes, fentanyl etc. We need to do more to inform, prepare, and bring awareness to our students and families in the community regarding these things.

Inform
Communication

Offer resources to our community regarding substance abuse issues being faced in the school District.

Reid stated it is apparent we need to be more informative regarding these types of issues in our district. Reid asks that today's meeting focus on a plan that can be recommended to the board to adopt that addresses these issues.

This plan would ideally include addressing the mentioned issues in elementary, middle and high schools. The intention is to have a plan of recommendation presented and approved by the board at the end of school year 2025, so a plan of implementation can take place or school year 2025-2026.

Reid addressed questions to:

Chief Wester reported on current programs implemented in the district to address:
Vaping, Jolene, and substance abuse education

- Wester does think we need to address the vaping issue at least at the 5th grade level.
- The district has changed some procedures at middle schools and high school with metal detectors to have them on more sensitive setting to have them locate vapes.
    - The district is now tracing yeti cups to find some drug use with yeti cups.
    - High School has implemented random bus searches with k-9, so the students are made aware the district is serious about putting an end to vaping and drug use.
    - Jolene is more active in elementary schools.
    - More education at elementary schools
    - The program, One drug kills he feels would be beneficial to be heard more than once a year at our schools.
    - Our shattered dreams a great program implemented that addresses drinking and driving.
    - Presentation by Officer Moore about cell dangers and apps
    - He'd like to bring this to the middle school level as well as high school.
        - Attendance was by parents and some of the students.
        - The presence of students is a good sign parents are valuing the programs being offered.

Amber Clark

- She took some of the HOPE squad to conference.
- There was a CRIME STOPPERS presentation for the counselors in attendance as well as the student HOPE squad representation.
    - Topics covered such as creating a fake social media account.
    - CAC has a program at Piner but not at Middle School that addresses internet safety and photos online or phone and the consequences of sending and how these kinds of choices come with legal ramifications.
        - We need VAPING education at the Elementary school level. Something more than a video.
        - She recommended the students need programs presented annually as the students progress through the school grades in the district.

- Amber commented on the OPT IN policy – this is a buy in for parents to have their student participate in the program.
    - She stated students aren't getting the program content because parents aren't opting in.

Dr. O'Neil

- Commented it is evident that the marketing for vaping is targeted to younger audiences.

Reid Kirk

- May 1, the Middle school's parent meeting with YES regarding the program from YES regarding the sexual health education program being brought into the schools.
- Would like us to research and recommend programs to address the issues that are prevalent in our district.
    - Not sure if school assembly style works or not.
    - Best way to get these messages across
    - What can we recommend doing differently than what is already being done to address these topics with students and parents?

Amber Clark commented.

- Sending newsletters but the viewing of the letters is very low.

Jenny Smucker commented.

- Is the title of the email NEWSLETTER or something else that helps them know what's in it that is informative?

In regard to program implementation, Amber stated that what works for Piner is to implement programs during Science or Social Studies

- Having students in the library for the program content

Chief Wester

- We need to make sure the app is available to students for anonymous reporting, an app SISD uses for anonymous reporting) I Watch Texas out of the governor's office.
    - Alert system that alerts principals when a student reports something on the app, but it is all anonymous
    - Another app is used by the district on backend that can be used for reporting / monitoring other behavior such as threats.

Reid asked the student representatives –
What thoughts do you have regarding these issues?

- Female student commented that now that there is monitoring for vapes at school entrances, she feels there is a big difference in lowering vaping.
- It feels like the social media issues are good to address as well.
- Female student commented also that there are fewer students trying to sneak vapes in school.

Asking the male student representatives
Is there anything we should be made aware of or need to address with students?

- Vaping is the biggest one that the students see.

Dr. O'Neil-commented

- Is there anything that you hear from younger siblings?
- Male student commented that there is chaos and fighting at MS level but hasn't heard about vaping at elementary level.
    - Amber Clark asked if there is still snap chat activity that is alarming or needs to be addressed?
        - Female student commented there are some students who just behave a certain way on social media and addressing it individually as a peer Is how the female student has handled that.
        - Female student commented that a lot of the students are desensitized.

Casie Rivas commented –

- Parents of young kids don't know these things because the students are desensitized to some of these behaviors and risky choices. Education to parents at younger level is a benefit to address these topics, because the kids assume we (parents) know but they don't.
- Regarding information overload – Casie recommends using a communication method to draw attention to topics that are important. Like paper. Paper may be the best option to get parents to read information that is important.
- We need to have more meetings in the year. Maybe consider a longer working meeting in the afternoon. She'd be willing to have a work meeting to get tasks done to complete the plans we need to complete.

Reid commented –

- The district is trying to condense information output on Sports You. Reid is willing to attempt a meeting planned to complete our planning to get some momentum.

Cassie commented –

- We have the framework so we can get more done with a concentrated meeting.

Reid announced the next two meetings:

April 3, 2025

May 8, 2025

Dr. O'Neil – commented his word of thanks for the commitment of the members and asked as parents –

- He talked with the communication director to get input from parents on what can be deemed important and how to best communicate with parents.
- Parent advisory committee to work on something like this.
    - Level 1, 2, 3 communication methods to help with communication overload.

Reid asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting?

Amber Clark motion to adjourn.
Second
Meeting adjourned
12:58 pm

Minutes submitted by:
Christy Baca