Bellingham Public Schools CSHE Task Force

March 15, 2022
4:30-6:30pm

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Bellingham Public Schools
a collective commitment

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FOR HEALTHY YOUTH

Thank you for being here!

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Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Group Agreements
- Our Purpose, Role, and Timeline
- Review CSHE Legislative Requirements
- Review WA Sexual Health Standards
- What does CSHE currently look like at BPS?

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Introductions

- Name/pronouns
- Role/school
- Why did you join the CSHE task force? What hopes do you have for this committee?

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Group Agreements

- Respect for each other's perspectives
- Work towards adoption
- Actively participate
- Take space/make space
- Take care of yourself and others
- Confidentiality

What else do we need for this committee to be a success?

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Purpose/Role of Committee

- To select and recommend a sexual health curriculum that aligns with the state requirements and is inclusive of all students in Bellingham Public Schools
- The committee makes the recommendation to the Instructional Materials Committee
- If approved by the Instructional Materials Committee, the recommendation will be forwarded to Dr. Baker who will bring it to the School Board

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Date, Time	Meeting Agenda
3/15, 4:30-6:30pm	Establish purpose of committee & norms, review legislative requirements and current BPS status
3/22, 4:00-5:30pm	Identify BPS priorities, create evaluation tool for reviewing curricula
3/29, 4:00-5:30pm	Practice scoring curricula and calibrate scoring, revise tool as needed
4/12, (independent)	Individually review and score curricula
4/19, 4:30-6:30pm	In grade bands, come to agreement on recommendation and rationale for curriculum selection
4/26, 4:30-6:30pm	Present recommendations by grand band to full committee and review for vertical alignment
5/3, 4:00-5:30pm	Select specific lessons to be taught at each grade level
5/10, 4:00-5:30pm	Develop recommendations for teacher professional development and community learning

Curricula for Committee Review

Elementary	Middle School	High School
Un|Hushed	Un|Hushed	Un|Hushed
3Rs	3Rs	3Rs
FLASH	FLASH	FLASH
		Native Stand

Rationale for selection:

- Materials are aligned to health standards and CSHE expectations
- Cost = free or reasonable/sustainable
- Some flexibility for implementation
- New/recent copyrights

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Decision-Making

Our goal is for everyone in the room to be a champion of the curriculum we select

Why Sexual Health Education?

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Children deserve a safe place to grow, learn about themselves, develop friendships and relationships, and thrive.



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What was your sex ed like in school?

Examples:
Confusing, inspiring, thorough, barely there, helpful, shaming, incomplete, non-existent...

What words do we hope BPS students use to describe their sex ed?

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Role of schools is to provide...

- fact based,
- unbiased,
- medically accurate,
- age appropriate

information and skills needed to promote the best possible health outcomes for ALL students

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Why is CSHE important?

Sex ed helps young people:

- Respect their own and others' bodies and boundaries
- Create healthier relationships
- Communicate about sexual health
- Avoid negative health outcomes
- Respect others' gender and sexual identity
- Delay sexual initiation
- Promote academic success

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Goals of CSHE

- To provide *accurate information* about human sexuality
- To provide an opportunity for young people to develop and understand their *values, attitudes, and insights* about sexual health
- To help young people develop *relationships and interpersonal skills*
- To help young people *exercise responsibility* regarding sexual relationships

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RCW 28.A.300.475 Requirements

“The curriculum, instruction, and materials used to provide the comprehensive sexual health education must be medically and scientifically accurate, age-appropriate, and inclusive of all students, regardless of their protected class status under chapter 49.60 RCW, and must include information about abstinence and other methods of preventing unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Abstinence may not be taught to the exclusion of other materials and instruction on contraceptives and disease prevention.”

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RCW 28.A.300.475 Requirements

- Must include information on affirmative consent and bystander intervention
- Must be taught twice in MS and twice in HS
- Districts can choose from the OSPI reviewed list of curricula, or choose/develop their own - but it must be consistent with the legislative requirements

Grades K-3

- New Requirements 2022-23
- SEL skills building
  - Cope with feelings
  - Set goals
  - Get along with others
  - Communicate boundaries

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Grades 4-5

- New Requirements 2022-23
- Provide CSHE no later than 5th grade
- Required topics include:
  - Understanding and respecting personal boundaries
  - Developing healthy friendships
  - Basic understanding of human growth & development

Grades 6-8

- Provide CSHE at least twice in grades 6-8
- Required topics include:
  - Affirmative Consent
  - Understanding and respecting personal boundaries
  - Reducing health risks, including abstinence and other STD/pregnancy prevention methods
  - Healthy relationships

Grades 9-12

- Provide CSHE at least twice in grades 9-12
  - Ideally a unit of instruction in at least two different grades
- Affirmative consent & bystander intervention
  - Consent that includes clear, voluntary, enthusiastic permission to engage in sexual activity
  - Not just the absence of “no”
  - Bystander intervention: how to safely intervene when they see bullying, sexual harassment or unwanted sexual contact
- Required topics include:
  - Personal boundaries
  - Healthy relationships
  - Human growth and development
  - Reducing health risks, including abstinence and other STD/pregnancy prevention methods
  - Accessing valid health resources

WA State requires that parents/guardians must...

- Be notified in advance of planned instruction
- Be able to review all CSHE instructional materials
- Be given the opportunity to opt their child out of CSHE instruction

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Why Equity is Important

- Approx. 20% of students in WA state schools identify as LGBTQ+
- Inclusion promotes positive school climate
- Inclusion supports healthy behavior

WA Legislation Supports Inclusive CSHE

RCW 28A.300.475 HYA: Sexual health education must be appropriate for students regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, and disability status and agree with:
Guidelines for Sexual Health Information and Disease Prevention

RCW 28A.300.285: Harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on gender or sexual orientation, real or assumed
Physical harm, damage property; interfere with education; or create intimidating or threatening educational environment; or disrupt orderly operation of the school.

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WA State Sexual Health Standards



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What's happening at BPS?

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Legislative Requirements

- What is currently being taught?
  - Elementary: FLASH/KNOW at 5th grade (all students together)
  - MS: FLASH in P.E. (6th-8th)
  - HS: FLASH in health class (typically 9th grade)

- What requirements do we still need to meet?
  - Affirmative consent & bystander intervention
  - Second implementation in high school

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Brainstorm

What's working well?

What's missing, challenging, or could be improved?

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Thank You!

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