

CRLS Council Meeting Notes for October 28, 2014

Attendees:

Damon Smith, Principal
Bobby Tynes, Assistant Principal
Greta Hardina, Family Liaison
Ross Benson, faculty
Janet O'Reilly, faculty
Gail Stubbs, Co-Chair
Trina Abbott, parent
Teresa Walker, parent
Bob Birnbaum, parent
Laverne Wilkinson, parent
Maria Figueiredo, parent
Adam Manacher, parent
John Delancey, parent
Marie Antoine, parent
Kim Kaufman, parent
Anne Chiriboge, parent
Edwidge L. Hercule, parent
Jennifer Brill, parent
Elka Uchman, Workforce
Kam Maali, Workforce
Larry Childs, FOCA rep

PowerPoint presentation by two reps of Cambridge Public Health Department—Stacey King and Keisha Ormond—who talked about building a culture of health at CRLS and substance abuse prevention.* Surveys for students and parents alternate every year. Licensed alcohol suppliers are taught how to spot fraudulent IDs. Parent engagement programs exist where parents spoke to children about substance abuse.

“Be All Right” is the message at CRLS in October by healthy eating, getting physical activity, controlling substance abuse, getting access to health care, talking about mental health, and having safe relationships. Reality Check has offered parent workshops on marijuana for the past seven years. 206 students stayed to participate on an early release day. There was a keynote speaker, Q&A, and a resource fair where students could answer questions to win prizes. Want the Culture of Health Day to be student driven. Seven priorities in Cambridge: substance abuse, mental health, healthy eating & physical activity, violence, affordable safe housing, health equity, and social justice. There was not a youth plan in place.

Poster of The Strength of Cambridge Teens is positive reinforcement. Poster was passed out at Community Meetings and is displayed throughout CRLS. Data seems consistent or decreasing for most substances except marijuana, which rose slightly. Parental influence decreases with age and grade.

Parent is wondering where the smoking and drinking happens. Keisha thinks it's happening in the parks and wants to work with the police to limit use of parks. It is clear that students who are getting high suffer from depression or anxiety. Self-medicating is new term for partying. Families may need more information about the role of the Teen Health Center. Teen Health Surveys available online at CPS main website. Perhaps have another health class in 11th or 12th grade to discuss the data, if resources are available.

SIP Draft

Two years of MCAS data

- Low income, disability, ELL students scored less than aggregate in ELA
- SIP needs to address these gaps in MCAS data between aggregate and subgroups
- Math scores are somewhat better than ELA
- 4-year cohort graduation rate data (not in 90% for any subcategory)
- Number of students in HN and AP classes

Damon has three points for SIP:

1. Increase enrollment in HN and AP
2. Increase subgroup performance in MCAS Advanced and Proficient
3. Increase graduation rate

Last three pages are action plans for objectives/initiatives. Skeleton plan; really rough draft
Look at Teen Healthy Survey, attendance, and other mitigating factors.

*"Building a Culture of Health and Prevention at CRLS"

Stacey King

Director of Community Health and Wellness Division at the Cambridge Public Health Department, which includes programs addressing men's health, substance abuse, children's dental health, violence prevention, and early childhood literacy. She has also worked in healthy eating and physical activity promotion and has a MS in Nutritional Biochemistry and Metabolism from Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy. She has been with the Cambridge Public Health Department since 2005. Her experience prior to her work in public health including teaching in a variety of settings.

Keisha Ormond

Keisha Ormond, Director the Cambridge Prevention Coalition at the Cambridge Public Health Department, works with a number of community partners to prevent underage drinking and marijuana use among youth, and opioid overdose and prescription drug misuse. Ms. Ormond has 14 years of experience in prevention; in addition to substance abuse prevention, has worked on issues such as dating and domestic violence, reproductive health.