

Meeting Minutes

Committee: School Wellness Advisory Council

Date: 01/20/26

Attendees: R Brown, E Dunham, N Golden, A Hall, C Minihane, S Newhouse, S Turner, M Palen, D Gauthier

Topic / Item	Discussion	Outcome	Action Plan
Update on the Administration of YRBS (Erin Dunham)	(1) YRBS was completed at the MS (Dec 15) and at the HS (Dec 16) with no issues with the opt out process using a Google form. A Hall provided excellent feedback re: students needed additional info prior to the day of the survey. She explained the flex block for the day of the survey was blocked but students were not clear for the reason. Parents seemed better informed. Some feedback on the timing of the email and the need for follow up emails.	(1) JCI is compiling the data now, will be presented to the School Committee at an upcoming meeting in the Spring. Numbers for the number of opt-outs, etc. will be provided along with survey data.	(1) Need to correct language on the WPS website, under 2025 “YRBS” Resources, FAQs, information is really in regard to Youth Health Survey (2) Importance of emphasizing the use of the data to make positive changes/establish new programs, etc.
Updates from Director of the Wilmington Board of Health (Shelly Newhouse)	(1) The current flu vaccine does not provide protection from the current variant but does lessen the degree of illness, vaccines continue to be available through the Town. Best protection is good handwashing. Shelly reported cases did decrease		

<p>Changes to current School Committee policy titled “School District Wellness Program” (ADF) (Danielle Gauthier/Mary Palen)</p> <p>Update on Social/Emotional Initiatives throughout the District (Erin Dunham)</p>	<p>the week of 01/04/26 to 01/10/26 from 11.26 % to 7.6%, with flu A, H3N2 the most prevalent</p> <p>(2) Per a guidance from Maura Healey and Dr Goldstein, dated Jan 2026, MA clinicians will follow AAP Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule.</p> <p>(1) Using the MA Local Wellness Policy Strength Checklist Tool for Triennial Assessment, with the help of Danielle Gauthier, final revisions and changes are close to completion. Each section was reviewed.</p> <p>(1) SOS for grades 7 and 10 was recently completed</p> <p>(2) In collaboration with some of Jordan Buckland’s health classes, students are learning positive norms, focusing on what is going well.</p>	<p>(2) Reference will be made to the Governor’s guidance at the time of new kindergarten/Pre K student registrations that the Commonwealth is mandated to follow AAP and not the CDC.</p> <p>(1) Final revisions to sections: Physical Activity, Education and Staff Wellness and Social-Emotional Climate and Caregiver Engagement</p>	<p>(1) Will post on WPS website the AAP immunization schedule</p> <p>(1) Plan to have draft ready for subcommittee for policies by early Feb for the first read.</p> <p>(2) Ensure the revision is dated.</p>
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<p>Update on Implementation of DESE Comprehensive Health and PE Curriculum (Jordan Buckland)/</p> <p>Non-Compliance with SC Policy (Becky Brown)</p>	<p>(1) Jordan Buckland was not present, no update</p> <p>(1) Situations continue to arise throughout the school day where staff are providing food from the outside to students (such food items as bagels, chocolate candy). For some students with life threatening allergies, this can present a significant risk.</p>		<p>(1) Add as an agenda item for an upcoming District Leadership Team meeting to ask principals to reinforce the policy to their staffs.</p>
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