Health and Wellness Subcommittee

OBJECTIVE OF SUBCOMMITTEE:

1. The subcommittee will make recommendations to the Westerly School Committee regarding the District's role in enhancing the health and well-being of students and employees in accordance with RI GL 16-21-28 –Health and Wellness Subcommittee.
2. The subcommittee will make recommendations regarding the district's health education curriculum and instruction, physical education curriculum and instruction, and nutrition and physical activity policies to decrease obesity and enhance the health and well-being of students.

The Westerly School Committee will fulfill its obligation to employees as required by RIGL 16-21-28 by establishing a Healthcare Advisory Committee in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement.

INSTRUCTIONS / GUIDANCE:

1. The Health and Wellness Subcommittee shall refer to RIGL 16-21-28 and the District Strategic Plan for guidance.
2. The Health and Wellness subcommittee shall be responsible for development of policies, strategies and implementation plans that promote purchasing and serving locally grown fruits, vegetables and dairy products and that meet the requirements of the child nutrition and Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010. The School Health and Wellness Subcommittee shall forward all recommendations regarding the district's health education curriculum and instruction, physical education curriculum and instruction, nutrition and physical activity policies to the Superintendent and full School Committee.

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDH) will provide technical assistance and support to the school health and wellness subcommittees on best practices, professional development on coordinated school health issues and suggested initiatives, and will support communication among the school health and wellness subcommittees by sharing information on activities, efforts and experiences.

REPORTING:

1. Reporting shall be consistent with requirements of RI GL 16-7.1-2(h) which requires that all strategic plans include strategies to decrease obesity and improve the health and wellness of students and employees through nutrition, physical activity, health education and physical education. Said strategies shall be submitted by May 1st of each year to the RIDE and the RI DoH.
2. The subcommittee chair shall update the School Committee at each regular meeting under subcommittee reports. Vacancies and appointments shall be reported and made as needed at regular meetings under subcommittee reports.

TERMINATION OF SUBCOMMITTEE:

1. The Westerly School Committee will maintain a Health and Wellness Subcommittee in accordance with RI GL 16-21-28- Health and Wellness Subcommittee.

GOVERNANCE:

1. In accordance with RI GL 16-21-28 the school Health and Wellness subcommittee shall consist of members of the general public, a majority of whom are not employed by the school district, including at least one parent.
2. The subcommittee will be chaired by a member of the school committee as required by RI GL 16-21-28.
3. The Health and Wellness subcommittee will meet at least four times per school year.
4. It is the policy of the Westerly School Committee to maintain a Health and Wellness Subcommittee of nine (9) members. A quorum shall consist of 5 members, a majority of whom are not employed by the district. The voting membership shall be determined as follows: one Westerly School Committee member and one alternate; three parents (one from each level is the ideal); one community member and/or parent; three teachers and/or administrators; one student representative and One alternate. The Food Service Director is generally expected to be available to attend when needed but is not considered a voting member.
5. Meetings are public, and the Health and Wellness subcommittee is encouraged to engage other members of the school community and experts as part of their deliberations.
6. To encourage participation by a diverse group of stakeholders, membership of the subcommittees and advisory committees will be refreshed every two years, concurrent with school committee elections. Members of the public, teachers, and administrators serve for 2 year terms or until the next election. No member shall serve more than 2 consecutive full terms.
7. Should a member reach the end of their term limit having served two consecutive 2-year terms and wish to continue serving they shall be permitted to do so until such a time as they are replaced
8. The subcommittee is advisory to the Westerly School Committee. Accordingly, all major decisions (e.g.: contracts, policy decisions and commitment of funds) must be voted on by the Westerly School Committee.