

SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC)

Minutes 9-24-19

In Attendance: Emilee Batchelor, Angela Berry, Melissa Bunker, Tracey Carney, Wendy Duemmler, Kathie Fenner, Tracy Hamilton, Jay Jones, Amy Kafitz, Denise Lamar, Dan McCloskey, Paige Moore, Wendy Nielsen, Cindy Payne, Sallie Roberts, Christine Skrutowski, Stephanie Starr, Mark Strickland, Tracy Strickland, Blaire Traywick, Belle Walker.

Business:

- 4:00 pm- meeting opened on 9-24-19.
- Minutes from 5-14-19 approved.
- Introductions of new members.
- A parent of a UCPS student is still needed to be a part of the council.
- Reviewed the 19-20 school year goals. (see attached). Goal 1 was reviewed by Wendy Nielsen, School Nurse Supervisor. Goals 2 and 3 were reviewed by Tracey Carney, SEL Coordinator and Belle Walker, Lead Social Worker.

GOAL 1: Expand community awareness regarding drug and tobacco/vaping use in Union County, NC with a focus on school-aged children. A letter from the UC Division of Public Health shared updates about vaping as of September 11, 2019. (see attached)

GOAL 2: Establish student support teams, and crisis and cluster response teams within the Union County Public School system. Schools are continuing to establish student support teams that include counselors, social workers, mental health therapists, nurses, psychologists and SRO's as needed. The team meets regularly with the common goal of having a plan in place for those students in need. Leads have completed the list of specific staff identified as members of each cluster response teams. These members respond when there is a crisis within their cluster. A threat assessment protocol is being developed and will be included in the goal.

GOAL 3: Train within Union County Public Schools System on Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA). UCPS is collaborating with Atrium regarding the training. There are 3 YMHFA trainers in the district. There is also a pilot for teaching the course to 10th and 11th graders.

- Mark Strickland, Ass't Superintendent of Operations, inquired about the infrastructure being in place so that students are made aware of the additional support available within the schools. There was further discussion around building an understanding among the staff of how to access the resources for their students. There are still positions that are vacant within the Student Support Department.
- Melissa Bunker, Cardinal Innovations, inquired about student support teams within UCPS and mentioned SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) as an option. Belle Walker, Lead Social Worker, said there are four schools that currently have student led mental health support groups.
- Assigned Leads to the three SHAC goals:
Goal 1- Expand awareness on tobacco/vaping. – Co-Leaders: Stephanie Starr, Director of Community Support and Outreach, Christine Skrutowski and Wendy Nielsen, Nurse Supervisors.
Goal 2- Establish student support and crisis teams. - Tracey Carney, SEL Coordinator
Goal 3- Train staff on Youth Mental Health First Aid. – Belle Walker, Lead Social Worker

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- Dr. Jay Jones, Weddington High Principal, is seeing the problem of vaping at his school changing. There is an increased number of students that are not just using vaping paraphernalia for nicotine products but they are now using it to smoke THC products and get high. Emilee Batchelor, Student at CATA, is seeing that her peers don't believe in the side effects or dangers of vaping and that they are willing to take a chance. They are also trying to fit in a group.
- Mark Strickland stated that School Nutrition has a deficit balance of 250 thousand dollars. Will have meetings with the School Performance Officers next week to assist with the problem and get support from school Principals.
- Next SHAC meeting is on Tuesday, November 12 from 4-5 pm at the PDC.
- Meeting adjourned at 5 pm.