

**District Advisory Committee
Board of Education Annual End-of-Year Written Report
2017-18**

Health and Safety DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Administrator Co-chairperson: Tara Brown

Chairperson: Stephanie Lewis

2017-2018 Charges:

- Focus on anxiety and depression, including screening and treatment in school-aged children
- Focus on best practices for handling outbreaks of communicable diseases
- Focus on drug and alcohol treatment and addiction awareness
- Focus on the Wellness Policy
- Focus on any other issues, if directed by the board

Accomplishments for the Year:

- *Focus on anxiety and depression, including screening and treatment in school-aged children*
 - Guest speakers Shuli Lotan (SMMUSD, mental health counselor), Shawn Davis (CLARE foundation) and Julie Rusk, Santa Monica Chief of Civic Wellbeing provided feedback on current trends in the community
 - Addition of Shuli Lotan as committee member which was essential to understand the mental health needs of students from their perspective as well as staff
 - Data from Youth Wellness Needs Assessment is being analyzed and will be used to guide areas of focus for DAC
- *Focus on best practices for handling outbreaks of communicable diseases*
 - Lora Morn created guidelines for the district regarding preparedness for communicable disease outbreaks and developed a handbook, which will be used to train school site RN's
 - Algorithm for school site nurses will be implemented to increase consistent and effective treatment pathways
- *Focus on drug and alcohol treatment and addiction awareness*
 - The Controlled Substance Board Policy is currently under revision with the input from principals
 - Guest SRO at several meetings; will provide training to campus security for identification of substances and will begin site safety reviews in the Fall
 - Met with SAMO high school principal (Dr. Antonio Shelton) to learn of his initiatives and hurdles/concerns with substance abuse on campus
- *Focus on the Wellness Policy*
 - Board approved and presentations to principals/PTA groups are underway (May through August)
 - DAC provided input into a revision of the Suicide Policy
- *Focus on any other issues, if directed by the board*
 - Addition of Ana Jarra to committee, Youth and Family Services Coordinator, working with SMPD; this is a valuable link to navigation of support services in the community
 - Addition of Liz Scharetg, Senior Administrative Analyst, Youth and Families who works closely with coordinating services within the community

Highlight(s) of Particular Note:

- The DAC completed revision and updating of the Wellness Policy and received approval from the Board, which was vital to outlining the best practices for our students and insuring standards that will be implemented at all schools.
- The addition of key community and school district members as regular attendees of this DAC enhances the committee's knowledge of the most pressing needs of our student population.
- Suzanne Post, SMFD, led the training of 78 staff members from Grant, Lincoln, Olympic High and JAMS for Search and Rescue refreshers. Staff from Lincoln also received 2 sessions of medical triage training. This will continue through the next academic year.

Possible Charges for 2018-19 (to be reviewed by co-chairs & board liaison(s) prior to coming to board for approval in the fall):

- Focus on anxiety and depression, including screening and treatment in school-aged children
- Focus on best practices for handling outbreaks of communicable diseases
- Focus on drug and alcohol treatment and addiction awareness
- Focus on the Wellness Policy
- (NEW) Focus on site emergency response to crisis situations
- Focus on any other issues, if directed by the board

Budgetary Implications: none at this time**Health and Safety DAC Members:**

- Stephanie Lewis, MA, CCC-SLP, Chair
- Tara Brown, Admin Co-Chair
- Sion Roy, MD
- Rita Kachru, MD
- Lora Morn, RN
- Pat Nolan, RN
- Deborah Rothman
- Cecilia Soto-Loftus
- Laila Taslimi
- Alyssa Ziman, MD
- Leslie Butchko
- Elizabeth Scharetg, MSW, MPH
- Shuli Lotan, LCSW, PPSC
- Ralph Mechur, Board Liaison
- Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Board Liaison

Community Service Representatives:

- Ana Jarra, MPP, Youth and Family Services Coordinator, SMPD
- Suzanne Post, MS, Fire Safety Coordinator, SMFD