

## **November SHAC Meeting**

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Austin ISD Board Room

### **Attendance:**

#### Members

\*Cynthia Soliz – Chair

Julia Hoke (psychologist, parent, SHAC Secretary)

Alisa Miller (parent)

Lisa Flores (parent)

\*Swati Avashia (parent)

\*Mandy Carpenter

Liz Jacobs (physician, parent)

Michelle Mejia (parent)

Susanne Kerns (parent)

Courtney Perry (teacher)

\*Tim Rutan

\* attending via Zoom meeting

#### AISD Staff

Shechem Sauls (AISD, School Mental Health Coordinator)

Tracy Spinner (Staff Liaison to SHAC, Director of Comprehensive Health and Mental Health)

Alexandra Copeland (Threat Assessment/Crisis Response Coordinator)

Loree LaChance (Director, Seton Health Services)

Ryan Cengel (District Dietician) + Regina, Intern

#### Visitors

Jorge Ordonez

Annabelle Dwyer

Audrey (did not get last name)

Leigh Ann Jensen

Called to order – 6:37

#### Introductions – Members and Guests

#### Community Comments

Annabelle Dwyer (AHS) shared public comment

Jorge Ordonez (parent) shared public comment

#### Items from members

Liz Jacobs – physicians have shared concerns about AISD telehealth plan; biggest concern is integration of primary care and who will be assessing the child's health and treatment needs

- This will be discussed at SHAC meeting in February – can bring telehealth provider to meeting to do presentation (VirtualCare for Kids)
- Tracy Spinner will give update today on telehealth plan
- Swati commented that CommunityCare clinics have capacity to see students who need PCP

Cynthia Soliz – Provided updates related to legal implications of topics discussed at past meeting:

- Update on Bullying: Bullying is a peer-to-peer relationship, so adults cannot legally bully a student. A grievance is the appropriate way to address adult to peer misconduct.
- Sunblock: Physical sunblock is not considered a drug (zinc), but chemical sunscreen is classified as a drug. Loree LaChance provided clarification from the Texas Education Code, which would allow the district to make sunscreen available for students to self-administer. Discussion of whether students who cannot apply sunscreen themselves can have adult apply—if it is in IEP.

Cynthia also shared her recommendation that the SHAC should consider impact of school closure on health and mental health of students and families.

- Tracy said that SEL department is already working on this, and update will be on the agenda for January (district support plan for supporting social-emotional and mental health needs of students affected).
- Tim Ruttan recommended doing an evaluation of the impact of school closures on mental health and whether school support plan helps mitigate these potential harms. \*\*SHAC can make recommendation to the district if needed, after presentation in January: to have a research component focused on impact of school closures\*\* Question from Lisa Flores about whether students with disabilities will be included in this research.

Courtney Perry – shared perspective that students want more information about vaping and screentime and other health risks.

Cynthia Soliz – stated that previous AISD sex ed curriculum is available through “Way Back Machine” online

#### Reading and Approval of Minutes

Courtney motioned and Liz seconded; approved by voice vote

#### Vote for Officers

Cynthia nominated Julia to serve as secretary; Lisa seconded; approved by voice vote

#### District Threat Assessment Overview

Tracy Spinner & Alexandra Copeland, Threat Assessment/Crisis Response Coordinator (power point attached)

- Threat assessment: Broadly defined as behaviors that could cause harm to self or others
  - Not crisis response; threat assessment is trying to keep a crisis from happening; not punitive

- Steps: identify students of concerns; gather information/investigate; assess student/situation; manage the student/situation
- Senate Bill 11: Establish “safe and supportive school teams” for threat assessment
  - District and campus teams (child study teams that are already established)
  - Establishes expertise that must be represented on teams
  - Teams must have specific training (Texas School Safety Center)
  - Harmful behaviors includes NSSI, suicide, bullying, physical assault, bullying, etc.
  - Preventative resources
  - Concern about how this will affect students with disabilities; Tracy & Alexandra discussed how equity will be addressed in district threat assessment
  - Liz: When do parents find out that the team has identified their child? If the child expresses intent to self-harm, parent is informed.
- AISD’s Efforts to Implement Threat Assessment:
  - Starting to develop district threat assessment framework but implementation is not required until 2020-21 school year
  - Social listening, Ontic Technology in partnership with AISD PD: Real time, always on data feeds, helps district gather, aggregate, and analyze the information they need to keep students safe. Monitors public, open-source information.
  - Go Guardian alert: Applies to students with district-issued chromebook; 24 hour monitoring of student activity on chromebooks; generates alerts when self-harm/suicidality is searched for, viewed, etc. ; current process:
    - Look in student information system to see if there is any information that elevates level of concern – immediate phone call to principal/counselor to find child on campus and to connect with parent
    - Alerts go to Tracy or Alexandra in the interim: SHAC members expressed concern that having only 2 staff members monitor these alerts is not sustainable
    - Most alerts are false-positives; 250 alerts in the past month
    - Currently, alerts for “harm to others” are not generated, but this feature could be turned on in the future

## District Reports

Ryan Cengel, District Dietician –

- Met yesterday with Physical Education Subcommittee regarding audit of district wellness policy; additions discussed included
  - Increasing CPR/AED training and Stop the Bleed training (recent legislation focused on getting more school staff trained to use these procedures; important for preventing death in school violence situations); ¾ of student health services staff was trained in Stop the Bleed this year; will be rolled out to AISD staff and students when funding is available (application pending for national Stop the Bleed grant);
  - Add language about offering healthy food options for employees participating in meetings or staff trainings (employee wellness);
  - Improving access to water in the cafeterias
  - Wellness policy does not allow food fundraisers during the school day; some groups have advocated for changing this policy; it is a rule that is frequently violated;

schools/PTA's have been provided with ideas for non-food fundraisers; Cynthia encouraged consideration of an exception for a "cultural" event; Michelle (?) asked about alternate sources of support for lower-income schools and whether there is a list of "repeat offenders;" Ryan and Michelle Rusnak will be meeting with ACPTA

Meeting Adjourned at 8:13