

STUDENT HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

4-9-2018

Mental Health Initiatives

Chenda Moore

- Mrs. Moore reviewed our collaboration with a mental health agency made possible through a grant opportunity. Last week we had 11 groups including 52 students districtwide meeting with mental health professionals. The grant is available through December 2018 and the district is looking to provide counseling opportunities to students during the summer and the fall.
- Ms. Moore reviewed our collaboration with the Gulf Coast Center and the Texans Recovering Together (TRT) grant opportunity. This grant provides for free counseling for students and families. Dr. Kelly has allowed meetings to be held at campuses after school to allow counselors to meet with students and families.
- The committee viewed the #IWILLASK video and Ms. Moore and Ted Frick described the event. Lexie Marshall (Pearland ISD Communications Department) can provide copies of flyers if needed to help advertise the event. Ms. Moore shared that donations are currently being accepted for gift cards to be given as prizes during the event.
- Ms. Moore shared that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and explained that each high school campus has a suicide prevention task force that is planning events in support of mental health awareness in May. The committee viewed a trailer of the documentary Screenagers that will be part of a community event scheduled for April 30, 2018 at ESC from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parents, community members, and students are invited to view the documentary and then there will be time to discuss the documentary. Screenagers will also be shown on May 1, 2018 at Dawson High School auditorium from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

School Safety

Lisa Nixon

- Dr. Nixon shared the plan to add security vestibules at all campuses throughout the district. These vestibules will be designed where there is a small area for visitors to enter the building and then after the visitor is checked in, the visitor will be able to enter the building. Dr. Kelly has asked the construction management staff that these be a priority in the bond projects that will be completed this summer so that the security vestibules will be in place for the start of the 2018 – 2019 school year. The only campuses that will not have them completed before the start of school will be those that have significant renovation projects that have to be completed prior to the installation of the security vestibules. For these campuses additional security personnel will be present until the security vestibules are installed.
- Dr. Nixon also shared that the Pearland Police Department is providing Active Shooter Training at every campus and the ESC. These trainings are designed to provide staff with

the knowledge and skills needed to survive in the event an active shooter enters a building. Pearland SROs are also talking with campus administrators and visiting classrooms to provide feedback on how to stay safe in the event there is an active shooter on the campus.

Early Start Time Survey

Lisa Nixon

- Dr. Nixon shared that some members of the community have asked the district to investigate the possibility of changing the start time for Pearland ISD students. The reason for considering this change is because of growing research that supports a later start time for high school students. Collecting stakeholder feedback is an important step in this process. Dr. Nixon stated the survey is scheduled to go out this week to all Pearland ISD parents, Pearland ISD staff, and high school students. It contains both questions and a link to “factors to consider” along with reference to research on the issue from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The survey is designed to be as neutral as possible. We will give all respondents at least 30 days to respond so that we have an acceptable return rate.
- A request was made to have the survey available in Spanish.
- A member of the committee asked how the survey would be communicated to high school students – will there be time to take the survey at school? Will teachers/staff encourage students to participate in the survey?

Comments/Concerns/Questions

- Dr. Nixon shared that next year the committee will review the “Puberty” videos and update them, if needed. If there is a need to update the videos, the new videos will need to be approved by the Board of Trustees before being implemented.
- A question was asked about the possibility of a total of 60 minutes of PE and recess daily. Dr. Nixon shared that the elementary principals and Dr. Waters are currently reviewing the elementary instructional schedule to see if additional time can be given for recess. Currently, the recommendation is to add 15 minutes of recess for elementary next year, doubling the amount of time allocated to recess.
- Ted Frick asked if there could be an increase in the number of high school students participating on the committee. He suggested PHS have 4 student representatives, DHS have 3, and THS have 2.