
Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) - Minutes

Location: Pearland ISD - Virgil Gant Education Support Center

Date: September 16, 2019

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Agenda details:

1. Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Nixon welcomed the council members present and members introduced themselves to the group.

2. Purpose

a. Need a volunteer to serve as a Co-Chairman

Dr. Nixon reviewed the purpose of the SHAC and asked for a volunteer to serve as a Co-Chairman this year. Sharon Simmons from PACE volunteered to serve as Co-Chairman.

3. School Safety & Student Reunification – Larry Berger

Mr. Berger reviewed the school safety requirements of SB 11 and shared examples of how the district has added safety features to “harden” school buildings such as security vestibules, new door locks with lock indicators, and gullet resistant film on all outside windows. Mr. Berger also reviewed the district’s work on developing and establishing a standard reunification method with city and county emergency officials in the event a campus must be evacuated in a serious emergency situation. Mr. Berger shared the district, working in conjunction with Pearland Police, is following the I Love You Guys model for standard response protocol. Mr. Berger also shared that the district will conduct a small drill with students from Berry Miller JH sometime this school year to test the procedures/plan the district has developed. Mr. Berger’s goal is to have the best plan possible that we never have to use.

4. Stop the Bleed Kits (HB 496) – Christine Beck

Mrs. Beck reviewed the purpose of the Stop the Bleed campaign – prevent death due to massive bleeding. She reviewed the Stop the Bleed training designed to teach a non-medical professional how to use the kits. The training is approximately 2 hours long and includes a presentation portion and a hands-on training that includes training on how to apply a tourniquet and how to pack a wound. Mrs. Beck shared the training efforts in the district and stated that every campus has at least one person trained. The SHAC had an

opportunity to look at one of the Stop the Bleed kits. One member asked how often this training will occur. Mrs. Beck shared that at this time there are no guidelines for training under HB 496 and the district is waiting on guidance from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) regarding required training.

5. Mental Health of Public School Students (HB 18) – Dr. Lisa Nixon

Dr. Nixon reviewed SHAC responsibilities in HB 18. The bill calls for the integration of physical and mental health in the health curriculum and expands awareness about e-cigarettes to all substance abuse. SHACs must issue several new statements, including a statement of the policies and procedures adopted to promote the physical health and mental health of students, the physical health and mental health resources available at each campus, contact information for the nearest providers of essential public health services, and the contact information for the nearest local mental health authority. In addition, for each campus, the SHAC must post a statement of whether the campus has a full-time nurse or full-time school counselor. The district will work with TEA and district administrators to identify more specific information about developing these items. Dr. Nixon shared the statement for nurses and counselors will be added to the district website with the other SHAC information and will be shared with SHAC members. Dr. Nixon also shared that one of the new World Class Goals from the Board of Trustees is, “Pearland ISD will support the physical and mental health of students and staff.” This goal supports the requirements in HB 18.

6. SHAC & Suicide Prevention (SB 11) – Chenda Moore & Dr. Lisa Nixon

The SHAC is charged with recommending strategies and policies to increase parental awareness regarding risky behaviors and early warning signs of suicide risks and behavioral health concerns, including mental health disorders and substance use disorders, as well as available community programs and services to address these concerns.

Mrs. Moore shared more information regarding the World Class Goal of supporting the physical and mental health of students and staff, and provided the main action steps which include social emotional need, physical safety plan, behavior management and training. Mrs. Moore also share some basic information about campus threat assessment team and include that all Pearland ISD SROs are certified mental health officers. Mrs. Moore also shared the districts efforts of providing Youth Mental Health First Aid training to RISE mentors, special education staff, counselors, nurses/HCAs, and teachers. There are also plans to offer this training to parents and members of the community. Mrs. Moore also shared information about the district’s Suicide Prevention Task Force that has student members who determine the focus for the #iwillASK event. The #iwillASK event is scheduled for April 16, 2020 at Dawson HS. Dawson HS students (40 student leaders who volunteered to support peers) will receive Jason Foundation training. On November 4, 2019 there will be a carousel of resources for students, families and staff at the Education Support Center from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. which will include gun safety information from the Pearland Police Department and a Q&A panel with school counselors. SHAC members suggested that the best method to share information with parents is to send Skyward emails to families. Members asked about mental health support for middle school students – parents concerned that middle school can be a traumatic time and there is little to no instruction for students at this age. Mrs. Moore shared that the school counselors

have a new anti-victimization curriculum that they use for classroom guidance lesson at every grade level. Stand Strong, Stay Safe curriculum is also being used for students in grades K- 5. Members also asked about finding time in the school day for mental health education and assemblies.

7. Instruction to Prevent the Use of E-Cigarettes – Dr. Lisa Nixon

Dr. Nixon shared basic information on the use and dangers of e-cigarettes. For the 2018 – 2019 school year, there were a little over 100 disciplinary incidents involving e-cigarettes.

8. Pearland ISD Wellness Policy – Dr. Lisa Nixon

Dr. Nixon shared a handout summarizing the purpose of a Wellness Policy. The SHAC will have an opportunity to review and update, if needed, the Pearland ISD Wellness Policy this school year. Members shared a concern about student being able to have water in the classroom and students that may have limited permission to go to the restroom during the school day. Dr. Nixon will follow up with principals in an upcoming principal meeting.

9. Next Meeting – Monday, November 11, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.