

Minutes from the Regular Meeting
School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)
Pearland Independent School District

Regular Meeting of the Pearland Independent School District School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) will be held on **Monday, October 11, 2021**, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

1. Welcome & Introductions

- *Dr. Nixon welcomed SHAC members and members were introduced.*
- *Dr. Nixon shared that the Texas Education Code was updated this summer regarding the format and expectations for SHAC meetings. Beginning this school year, the SHAC is required to post notice of the date and time of the meeting and the meeting agenda at least 72 hours before meeting, prepare and maintain minutes of the meeting, make an audio or video recording of the meeting, and post the recording and minutes from the meeting on the district's website no later than the 10th day after the meeting. Because of this new posting requirement, the SHAC will only be able to discuss items specifically listed on the agenda during the meeting.*

2. Purpose

- *Texas Law (Texas Education Code) requires the establishment of a School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) for every school district. A SHAC is a school district created advisory group, consisting of members from different areas of the community and school district. The job of the SHAC is to assist the district in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the health education program. The district-level group will serve exclusively in an advisory role. The council will address the continued implementation of a coordinated health program including:*
 - *Health Education*
 - *Physical Education*
 - *Health Services*
 - *Nutrition Services*
 - *Health Promotion for Staff*
 - *Healthy School Environment*
 - *Counseling/Psychological/Social Services*
 - *Family/Community Involvement*
- *In addition, 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 abuse disorders, as well as available community programs and services to address these concerns.*

3. ARP ESSER III Proceeding with Purpose (Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services) Review – Donna Tate, Federal Programs/Grants Administrator

- ESSER III District Webpage: <https://www.pearlandisd.org/Page/27257>
- *Donna Tate reviewed the Pearland ISD ESSER website to highlight the grant applications for ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III funds. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the learning of Pearland ISD students and students around the state and country. In March 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) was signed into law by President Biden and included \$122 billion for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for school districts across America. The district applied to use the required Learning Loss portion of the first allocation to provide digital devices for remote learning, professional development for teachers and administrators, additional staff for at-risk populations, and social-emotional support through the Character Strong Program. The district used the non-Learning Loss portion to provide for the continued employment of staff by funding payroll expenses including while the district was closed or operating remotely due to the pandemic, and to provide funding for the December 2020 mid-year pay supplement given to employees to retain employees. Ms. Tate also reviewed the district's Proceeding with Purpose Plan and described how district stakeholders can provide feedback on the district's plan. Ms. Tate asked for questions or feedback, but there were none from the participants during the meeting. Dr. Nixon shared that members can email her with questions at any time, or Donna Tate with questions about ESSER III.*

4. Parent Sessions with Counselors (High School & Junior High) – Dr. Chenda Moore, Coordinator of Guidance Services

- *Dr. Moore shared the virtual parent training sessions planned by the Student Support Counselors. The four junior high campuses have combined efforts to provide a session each month this school year. Families will receive information from their school through Skyward email messages. For the high school level, the Dawson High School counselors have developed sessions for their families. Pearland High School, PACE Center, and Turner College and Career High School counselors are working together to provide virtual sessions for families.*
- *Coffee and Conversation virtual sessions are available from this Pearland ISD website - [Guidance Services / Coffee & Conversations \(pearlandisd.org\)](https://www.pearlandisd.org/Guidance-Services/Coffee-&-Conversations)*
- *Dr. Moore shared an overview of the Character Strong program that was purchased for all campuses this year using ESSER funds. Today there was a training for all campus teams on the implementation of the Character Strong program. The focus of this program is building connections and relationships with students and staff. Dr. Moore provided an example of a Character Strong activity, "My Name Isn't."*

5. COVID-19 District Planning & Procedures – Christy Beck, Coordinator of Health Services

- *Christy Beck provided an overview of our COVID cases this school year. Mrs. Beck shared that our number of active cases was about three times the highest number of active cases last school year, but now we have consistently been below 100 active cases for a few weeks. Mrs. Beck also discussed our current COVID testing for school districts, working with TEA and DSHS to keep track of active cases in schools. Our current rapid tests will expire at the end of November. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Texas Department of Health Services (DSHS) will take over the responsibility for providing options to school districts to continue COVID testing. Pearland ISD has selected a vendor to continue to provide rapid testing both on campuses and at the Rapid Testing Center. In addition, PCR testing will also be available. Because the district will be administering a different rapid test, parents will need to sign a new consent for testing if they would like their child to be tested. Mrs. Beck reminded the members that even if we have signed consent for testing, the district procedure is for parents to be notified by phone before any testing is done. There will also be additional training needed for staff in administering the new tests. Mrs. Beck shared with the members that we are continuously watching the number of positive cases for each campus. She acknowledged that there are higher case counts at Jamison Middle School and Sablatura Middle School. The district has met with staff from the Brazoria County Health Department regarding the increase in positive cases. Mrs. Beck also spoke to the members about questions she has received regarding the district's COVID dashboard. She explained the process of how we are notified of lab-confirmed cases and how these cases are added and "recovered" on the dashboard. She explained that it can be confusing in cases where the school is not notified of a positive case until the student has almost completed the required isolation period.*

6. Pearland ISD Wellness Policy

- *Dr. Nixon shared that one of the main projects of the SHAC is to review and make recommendations for updating the Pearland ISD Wellness Plan. Dr. Nixon will email a link to the current Wellness Plan for the SHAC to review prior to the November meeting.*
- *Link - [Microsoft Word - FFA\(R\) Wellness Plan April 2020 \(pearlandisd.org\)](#)*

7. Next Meeting – Monday, November 8, 2021