

Minutes for SHAC Meeting November 15, 2011

The SHAC committee met on November 15, 2011 in the Board Rm. at the Palacios ISD Administration Building. The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by Amy Kubecka, Co-Chair for the 2011-2012 SHAC. The meeting began with the welcome and introduction of SHAC members and visitors.

Members present were: Amy Kubecka, Lisa Harper, Larry Williams, Kay Lawson, Carolyn Kubecka, Amber Engel, Diane Koop.

Visitors present were: Haley Garcia, Peggy Scantlen, Vanessa Kunefke, Herbert Ressler, David Pena, Kimberly Nicholson, Joe Adams, Buddy Kelly, Vicki Adams.

Nutrition of the school lunches was discussed. A concern addressed by parents was wasted meals due to students not liking them. Suggestions to determine which meals are liked vs. disliked include voting on food and surveying students regarding favorite and least favorite meals. Mr. Ressler will look into the issue of wasted food. Also addressed was the type of vegetables offered at certain meals. Parents were concerned that on several days there were no green vegetables and the vegetable offered was pickle spears or ranch beans. Questions were also asked as to how the menus are decided. Menus are decided jointly during the summer by the cafeteria supervisors following Texas Public School Nutrition Policy Guidelines. There is a slight variation between the Jr. High and High School cafeteria and the East Side & Central cafeterias. The secondary cafeteria offers a second lunch line with a different main entrée and a snack line. The items on the snack line are not part of the meal plan and must be paid for by the student at the time of purchase. Fresh fruits and vegetables, which are paid for by the district and are not part of the meal plan, are also offered free to all students every other day at a snack bar.

New legal requirements starting next school year for staff awareness training were discussed. Staff will be required to have awareness training regarding prevention and recognition of sexually abused & maltreated students. The implementation of a suicide prevention program and training of staff regarding the program will also be required. Assistance in addressing these two issues was requested. Mr. Williams stated that he provides yearly training to teachers regarding sexual harassment, CPS, and recognizing and reporting abuse. Kimberly Nicholson, Program Specialist for the Texas Department of State Health Services, will pass on our contact information to Kim Beam, MPH, Program Specialist for Family and Community Health Services at the Texas Department of State Health Services. Mr. Beam has recently been assigned to help schools set up suicide prevention programs and is currently working on a tool kit to assist with this.

Ms. Nicholson also mentioned that DairyMax offers funds for breakfast in the classroom. East Side Intermediate Principal Carolyn Kubecka stated that East Side is currently using funds from DairyMax & NFL Play 60 to get supplies for PE. Superintendent Vicki Adams stated that the district offers free breakfast to all students.

Ms. Nicholson briefly described "It's Your Game, Keep It Real", an evidence-based middle school abstinence plus sexual education curriculum. Ms. Nicholson will send us information on the curriculum.

The meeting closed by discussing the date and time of the next SHAC meeting. The next SHAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14, 2012, at 12:00pm-1:00pm in the Board Rm. at the Administration building.