

DRAFT MINUTES
Howard County School Health Council
February 13, 2019
(6:30-8pm)

HCLS Elkridge Branch: Belmont Meeting Room
6540 Washington Boulevard, Elkridge, MD 21075

Attendees:

Tempe Beall, Mirian Ofonedu, Sharon Hobson, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Laura Wisely, Kathy Linne von Berg, Anne Markus

I. Welcome and Introductions

Anne Markus, Chair, SY 2017-2019

6:45 pm

II. Review of Ground Rules

As Needed

Executive Board

III. Approval of Agenda & October Meeting Minutes

Consensus

Anne Markus

Minutes from December 2018 were unanimously approved.

IV. YRBS Data and HC-SHC Priorities for SY 2018-2019

All

2016 YRBS Data: <https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/ccdpc/Reports/Pages/YRBS2016.aspx>

The chair recapped some successes of the council, especially in the area of stress and anxiety/mental health, which contributed to where the county is today in addressing some of these issues. The current multi-pronged approach as embodied in the pilot that was implemented was summarized briefly. It was suggested that we should reconvene after the program ends this summer to discuss whether there has been a noted difference.

Those in attendance then discussed possible priorities for the Council for next school year. Some issues that were highlighted included:

- Students with IDD-disability (e.g., autism): Screening for suicide ideation is different; treatment is different; put together some training on IDD. It is underdiagnosed especially in racial and minority groups.
- Later start times: See recent Board meeting.
- Parent engagement: Pilot on the issue of trust at Title I schools.
- Safety-community balance: Safety seems to be overemphasized at some schools at the detriment of parent/community access, which could compromise student connectivity.
- Electronics-sleeping-texting: Need to change the culture.
- School climate: Level of engagement across schools, PTAs, Principals.

- Juuling study: Teachers are being trained to recognize USBs as JUUL USBs. A comment was made about recent, very inappropriate flyers that were posted in some schools but immediately taken down. It was noted also that substance use includes JUUL. HCDrugFree will start a campaign targeting 12-13 years old in middle school. Adderall is another concern although use is still low.
- Health education: COMAR changes the whole framework which will impact the curriculum. Focus is on health skills, less on content pieces. Changes are made in exclusion (e.g., HIV/AIDS parents cannot opt out anymore). Puberty education will start in lower grade, i.e., 4th grade. The school system has recommended increasing health ed from ½ a credit to a full credit in high school.
- Any policies up for review? Board website will be checked for this.
- Technology – safe use: For example, use of google drive.
- New buildings: Question was posed as to whether the council could provide recommendations in this area.

The group agreed that the next step would be to field a short survey of priorities to a larger group of parents in the community. HC DrugFree offered to use her list of 5,000 families in the county as many priorities pertain to substance use. A draft list of priorities was put together. The group discussed translating the tool. In addition, how do kids like to get information? And how do you as a parent like to get information.

V. Announcements

HCDrugFree announced that take-up day will be April 27.

VI. Public Input

None.

VII. Adjourn Meeting

8:11pm

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

April 10, 2019 – CANCELLED (“Angst” screening)

June 12, 2019

Please check website at

<https://www.howardcountyschoolhealthcouncil.com/public-meetings.html>