

**09/28/2022**

## **Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by M. James. Welcome and introductions.

### **2. PURPOSE**

M. James read aloud the purpose of SHAC which states:

A School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) is a group appointed by the school district to serve at the district level. Texas law ([Texas Education Code, Title 2, Subtitle F, Chapter 28, Subchapter A, §28.004](#)) requires the establishment of a SHAC for every school district. SHACs are required to meet at least four times each year.

SHACs assist the districts in ensuring that local community values are reflected in health education instruction. Additionally, SHACs play an important role in strengthening the connection between health and learning. They can help parents and community stakeholders reinforce the knowledge and skills children need to stay healthy for a lifetime.

### **3. REVIEW MINUTES**

A motion to approve the 05/02/2022 SHAC meeting minutes was made by S. Whitley and seconded by R. Arthur.

### **4. REPORTS**

#### **a. COVID Updates- M. James**

BISD is still tracking COVID cases and are required to report them to The Brazoria County Health Department on a weekly basis. We ask that students and staff do a daily self-screening before coming to school. This includes visitors. Student positive cases are reported to the campus nurse and staff positive cases are reported to HR. We are no longer offering COVID testing for students and staff this school year. For Pre-K - 4th and self contained grade levels, we are notifying all of the classroom parents when there is a positive case in a classroom. As of today, we have a total of 7 student cases reported for this week. Last week we had a total of 15 student cases.

#### **b. Guidance & Counseling- A. Jasso**

##### **i. Comprehensive School Counseling Program**

House Bill 18 began requiring more emphasis on the comprehensive school counseling program in 2019. BISD made it a priority to make sure there was a scope and sequence for every grade level and that we are incorporating the four components of the program. It provides the framework for counseling programs that includes activities at every grade level to enhance students' educational, career, personal and social development. The

Comprehensive School Counseling Program consists of four requirements: 1.) Guidance Curriculum, 2.) Individual Planning, 3.) Responsive Services, and 3.) System Support. Each component is broken down in the [Guidance and Counseling SHAC Presentation](#).

ii. Mental Health Supports

BISD has a lot of mental health experts on campuses which consist of 30 counselors, 3 social emotional learning specialists and 7 Licensed Professional counselors (LPCs). LPCs are true therapists and help remove barriers to mental health access. All mental health referrals go through the school counselor who makes referrals to the LPC. A signed consent form from a parent is required before a LPC begins therapy sessions. This way, barriers are removed from mental health access. Parents do not have to worry about transportation to an outside location and it is at no cost to the family.

Mental Health supports function as a tiered system. Tier 1 consists of guidance lessons and is available to 100% of students. Tier 2 consists of small group counseling and collaboration with assistant principals, counselors, and teachers. This group contains about 30% of students. Tier 3 involves about 10% of students who need intensive individual intervention, individual counseling with an LPC, or referral to outside resources. Tier 3 also includes re-entry meetings for students to transition back to their home campus after assignments to alternative campuses. Tier 4 includes referrals to outside sources, ongoing individual counseling, suicide ideation and crisis response.

iii. Senate Bill 9

Senate Bill 9 came about with the last legislative session and requires all Texas schools to provide recommendations to the school board if a stand alone curriculum is going to be used to specifically address child abuse, family violence, human trafficking, and dating violence. BISD does not have a stand alone curriculum for any of these topics. Last school year, Unbound presented their Human Trafficking curriculum called Sentinels to SHAC. It is recommended for 6th-12th grades. This curriculum recommendation has been put on pause while new counselors are trained. The next Lead Counselor meeting in November will discuss whether or not we would like to move forward. The Bill also states that parents must opt-in for their student to receive instruction in any of these topics. This school year, the permission forms were incorporated into the registration packets. Pre-K - 6th grades permission form addresses only child abuse curriculum and 7th-12th grades permission form addresses dating violence and human trafficking.

c. House Bill 1525- J. Whitehead

House Bill 1525 addresses Human Sexuality Instruction and gives school districts a couple of options to either adopt a separate Human Sexuality curriculum or utilize what is already embedded into the current curriculum. BISD has opted to not adopt a separate curriculum and continue to use the current curriculum with required TEKS which may fall under the human sexuality umbrella. An example of this is reproduction which is taught in biology.

d. Child Nutrition Update- A. Anderson

Child Nutrition is back to pre-COVID everything. We are participating in the Community Eligibility Provision at fourteen of the schools which means all students get free breakfast and lunch. Five campuses (Brannen, Beutel, Rasco, LJI and Brazoswood) are not eligible to participate based on the number of students being directly certified for benefits. The goal for next year is to add another one or two schools. Child Nutrition is also participating in the Child & Adult Care Feeding program which provides a meal to any campus that has an after school enrichment program. Another program at Velasco and Freeport Elementary receives fresh fruit or vegetables twice a week accompanied by curriculum materials.

e. Prevention Strategies- J. Engelking, D. Gilbert

J. Engelking stated that upon looking at the district and county data during COVID, it showed that vaping is on the rise. We were able to hire Davis Gilbert as a prevention specialist and we've been able to put some tools in place and in the hands of teachers. Mr. Gilbert goes to campuses to help with these efforts. The goal is to build resilience in students because we know that is what is going to be effective. Their ability to have good coping mechanisms is the best prevention to using unhealthy things. The district internal B-Connect site and the At-Risk Services site have resources for teachers on prevention. We use a tiered support in which all students grades K-12 receive some kind of prevention guidance. It looks different depending on the grade level. Students who have been involved in a vaping incident on campus get additional levels of education as part of their consequence. Students who continually have vaping incidents are referred to the LPC for counseling services.

D. Gilbert stated that last year was his first year as the district prevention specialist. It was a very positive year with everything that was rolled out. Establishing healthy behaviors during childhood is more effective than trying to change behaviors later so the goal is to get to the younger children and give them as much information as possible so that they will have a good foundation. The Brazoswood stuco students have helped with prevention activities at the Lake Jackson farmer's market with a plinko board which draws a lot of children to the booth with their parents. The parents are then given vaping information while the students are playing. Nine Chicken Club rallies took place last year for 4th graders. Tobacco free activities, such as poster and drawing contests, took place at all campuses.

Mr. Gilbert presented information to BSA students about the lawsuit against Juul, emphasizing the dangerous substances contained in the devices. These students will be part of the Teen Ambassador Club. Some of these students may have had a brush with vaping either through themselves or family or friends. Kids listen to peers better and the students were surprised to be asked to be leaders. They will have the opportunity to attend and represent their peers at state and national conferences so that they can come back and teach what they learned. Vaping prevention is centered around a very positive, friendly, and uplifting way instead of negative reactions.

- f. Updates from BISD Students- Brazoswood High School Stuco and PALS students. Students are preparing for numerous activities:
- Red ribbon week is in October. Brazoswood will have dress up days for the week where students can dress up according to the theme of the day. Themes include “Anything But Drugs” in which students will use items to carry their books instead of a backpack, “Drugs Are a Nightmare” which is pajama day, and “Despicable Me” day.
  - Students are also preparing for Chicken Club rallies for all 4th graders.
  - A carnival is being planned in which all of Brazoswood High School’s clubs are invited to participate in. There will be inflatables and it will be open to the community.
  - Mental Health Week is Oct. 3-7. Activities planned include temporary tattoos, positive clothespins, and painted rocks to find. The Sunshine Cart will also be available for students to choose a snack from.
  - Anti-bullying Week is Oct. 10-14. Anti-bullying activities are planned for each day.
  - Brazoswood Threads Closet is also maintained by stuco students. Students in need of clothing can fill out a google form and get what they need. This is done very discreetly. Prom dresses are also available.
  - Stuco students fill backpacks with food for the Backpack Buddies program. Donations have been made by Knights of Columbus, St. Michael’s, and Lady Buc Soccer. Backpacks were donated by the National Guard. Once filled, the backpacks are taken to the LPC office and the 9th Grade Nurse’s office for students to pick up. No one knows who the receiving students are.

**6. ADJOURNMENT- 12:25p.m.**