

School Health Advisory Committee Meeting

November 18, 2021

Lee County Public Education Center/Zoom

8:30 – 10:30 am

Member/Guests/Presenters

Allington, Debbie	LCSD - Health Services Secretary
Bailey, John	LCSD - EE Resource Teacher
Carroll, Amy	LCSD-Coordinator of Food Procurement
Cavanagh, Christina	Physician Lee Health
Davis, Sharetha	
Fischer, Mary	LCSD -Board Member
Gallo, Yazmin	LCSD - Educational Paraprofessional
Goerke, Kurt	DOH- Health Education Program Manager
Hassett, Susie	LCSD - EE Resource Teacher
Jackson, Angela	United Way
Kaisner, Garrett	Hanley Foundation Prevention Coordinator
Kulko, Jon	Lieutenant -Cape Coral Police Dept.
Kurtz, Julie	LCSD-Registered Dietitian
Malinoski, Keri	Hanley Foundation
Miner, Moira	LCSD - ESE Nurse Specialist
Morales-Perez, Kathleen	Public Health Specialist-UF/IFAS Extension Lee County
Moron, Andrea	Program Manager-UF/IFAS Extension Lee County
Ortenzo, Janet	Southwest Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Roy, Leisha	LCSD-Health Educator: SHAC Co-Chair
Watson, Janice	
Wilson, Kelly	Food Systems Specialist-UF/IFAS Extension Lee County
Wynne, Kathy	LCSD - Prevention Specialist

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 by Leisha Roy.

Members were asked to enter names and titles into chat box for attendance. Members were also asked to sign in on the member sign in sheet.

Minutes from the September 23rd meeting were unanimously approved after Leisha Roy, requested that suicide prevention, under the school board update, be changed to human trafficking. Kurt Goerke made the motion and Andrea Moron Vasquez seconded.

NEW BUSINESS

Health Department School Tobacco Policy Work and Related Trainings - Kurt Goerke presented where the Health Department is on Tobacco Policy Information. He explained that the DOH works with the school Districts to compile what the policies are in place and how they are working. One major example of this is the policy regarding students smoking on campus. In the past, policies have been very punitive in nature it is now showing that changes should be made to these policies. The Lee County School District has put programs in place to try and help students to prevent bad habits instead of punishing/suspending them.

This information will be due to the State in December so the DOH will complete the paperwork and then have the School District verify that all the information is correct prior to sending it to Tallahassee.

Kurt also presented the Professional Development/Certification Course that are available to teachers. (See attached handouts) There are three separate course that are all free.

The DOH works with Tobacco Free Florida and the Area Health Advisory Council to create programs for quitting tobacco. The 3 C's – click, call or take a class. More information is available at tobaccofreeflorida.com

Finally, the Florida School Health Recognition Award will be open again for application from January to March 2022. The Lee County School District won the Silver Award from 2016 to 2018. Kurt requested the contact for the School District.

Leisha recommended that Amanda Evans reach out to Wally Colon, Assistant Director of Health Services. Wally will then convene the team of Amy Carroll, Leisha Roy and Heather Parker to complete the application.

Healthy Living Collaboration - Susie Hassett briefly introduced her team and said everyone will be presenting their part of the project. Susie introduced the School Gardens and all the benefits of having gardens at the schools. (Link to the article referenced - <https://doi.org/10.1080/1533015X.2015.975084>)

Susie reviewed all the types of gardens:

- In ground – Traditional
- Container gardening – pots, tile bins, Styrofoam take out boxes, etc.
- Raised bed gardens
- Permaculture including perennial plants
- Hydroponics – can be powered by solar and wind
- Pollinator Gardens

Susie also reviewed the other forms of agriculture:

- Aquaculture – tilapia, red claw
- Aquaponics – producing protein with your produce
- Vermiculture – composting
- Livestock, Future Farmers of America (FFA), Vet Tech Academy
- Chickens, rabbits and goats

Susie discussed many of the Garden Outreach Events throughout the Community:

- School Garden Kickoff on September 23,2021 – hosted by several community members
- School Garden Leadership Training – educational series provided monthly
- EAT Local Lee - information about many local resources (link - https://572be7c3-9110-460b-9662-e67a0309f56d.filesusr.com/ugd/f93c15_3276194896334925be9c568c7b20dc99.pdf)
- Project Victory Gardens – During COVID the teachers would go out and harvest the food to give away. Several other community resources donated plants. All the food and plants were given away to families when they came to get food. (Link - <https://sites.google.com/leeschools.net/projectvictorygardenslcsdfl/home>)
- Florida Crunch in October of 2021 – hosted by the Lee County School District at five schools in the District.
- Healthy Living Collaboration – Program to support nutrition and wellness classes offered by UF/IFAS Family Nutrition Programs. Will combine school gardens with the cafeteria menus and the nutrition classes along with mental health initiatives.

Family Nutrition Program - Andrea Moron Vasquez presented an overview of the Family Nutrition Program. They provide Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)-Education in coordination with community partnerships. They are located in South Florida with the headquarters in Gainesville. They are grant funded from the USDA through the Florida Department of Children and Families. They help limited-resource families access to more nutritional foods on a budget and also promote increased physical activity. They work with families in 40 different counties.

Andrea then introduce her team:

- Janice Watson – Nutrition Educator – works with elementary through high school in nutrition education
- Sharetha Davis – Nutrition Educator – works with VPK student, after school students and special populations
- Cielo Schneider – Nutrition Educator – works with the community to teach the importance of nutrition and physical activity
- Rokia Jones – Office Assistant
- Kelly Wilson – Food Systems Specialist – works with all the schools presenting a variety of programs (Farm to school, School gardens, Local procurement, Smarter Lunchrooms Movement)
- Kathleen Morales Perez – Public Health Specialist – works to create environments to promote healthy choices to be the easiest choices

The areas that UF/IFAS covers were reviewed. These are low income areas. The program areas they work with are:

- Creating healthy childcare centers
- Creating healthy schools
- Creating healthy communities – parks, churches, community centers

They provide a variety of direct education programs throughout the community.

Yazmin Gallo, Parent Involvement Liaison from Tice Elementary, presented how working with UF/IFAS has changed Tice Elementary. She explained how the variety of programs met the needs for all the

students throughout the school. There were programs for the students as well as the parents. The programs taught them how to cook healthy recipes and implement exercise in their daily habits.

Angela Jackson, Community Partnership School, discussed how successfully the UF/IFAS staff engaged the middle school students. Angela said some of the students wanted the cafeteria to provide the foods they were taught to cook in their weekly classes. The classes have definitely made an impact on their students.

Amy Carroll presented a Facebook video on the Florida Crunch Program that took place in October of 2021 at five schools within the District.

Comprehensive Health Update – Leisha reported that the letter of support from SHAC was sent with a letter from Mary Fisher. This was sent to the Governor, the Department of Education Commissioner and all of the local Representatives.

As far as health education district wide - the “Opt Out” letter for parents has been improved allowing parents to remove their children from any sexuality education or communicable disease programs.

Leisha reported that we are still trying to recruit for Drug House Odyssey actors. Drug House Odyssey takes place on February 8 through the 10th.

Leisha introduced Wally Colon - the New Assistant Director of Health Services.

School Board Update – Mary requested to have today’s presentation shared with the Board.

GOOD OF THE CAUSE

Kathy Wynne presented the TALK posters that will be disseminated to the elementary and middle schools by the school counselors. She also showed the prevention folders that will be going out to the 7th through 9th graders.

Amy Carroll shared that the School District will begin serving peanut butter and jelly sandwiches sometime in 2022. An allergy management plan will be out in place prior to dissemination of any peanut butter items.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35.

2021 – 2022 Meetings

February 10, 2022

April 14, 2022