

SHAC Meeting Minutes

9/28/23

Attendants:

Johnelly Green	Ruchita Kachru
Serina Marcum-Holt	Randell Doty
Crista Shaffer	Deloris Paul
Gary Pigott	Sarah Gehrsitz
Verena Vancil	Kimberly Joy
Christina Edwards	Olga Luaces
Jyoti Budania	Michele Milinkovic
Jamie Lovett	Lauren DePaola
Kathleen Ryan	Paul Myers
Kourtney Oliver	

Meeting began: 12:03PM

Introduction- Johnelly Green

What is SHAC?

“A School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) is an advisory group composed of school, health, and community representatives who act collectively to advise the school district on aspects of a Coordinated School Health approach.”

Why have a SHAC?

- Each county in Florida is statutorily mandated (FL Statute 381.0056) to establish and maintain a SHAC. As of July 1, 2006, membership must include representatives from all eight component areas of the Coordinated School Health Model as identified by the CDC.
- “Modern school health programs – if appropriately designed and implemented – could become one of the most efficient means the nation might employ to reduce the establishment of four main chronic disease risks: tobacco use, unhealthy eating patterns, inadequate physical activity, and obesity.” Kolby, L et al., Public Health Reports, May 2004, pg. 286-302.

Statute and Law updates

HB 1537- Self carry headache medication. Students may carry OTC headache medication on their person. We have updated our self-carry form to include this and do request that parents fill this form out so that we have knowledge of the student carrying medication. This privilege of carrying medication can be revoked if student uses the medication inappropriately or shares with other students.

Q: M. Milinkovic-have there been any reports of students sharing meds with other students?

A: Johnelly Green-Not that I know of.

HB 1557-Active Parental Consent. Must be signed every year for health screenings, care plans, and maintenance of chronic health conditions. Forms are available online, and in the schools and clinics. The forms are included in the Skyward new student enrollment packets.

Q: R. Doty-Are the screenings State required?

A: J.Green - Yes, there is a state mandate for these to be offered, but parent must sign authorization for their student to participate. There has been a significant drop in participation numbers, as many parents will not sign the authorization form.

Comment: Olga L.- Collier County performs their dental screenings in September and in Spring. They have more time to get consents in from parents when doing it later in the year. Maybe this would increase our numbers here in Alachua County.

Comment-Dr. Ryan hears that Peds offices are doing Vision & Hearing screenings, maybe why they aren't being consented for within the schools

Comment-J.Green – Some pediatricians will perform Vision & Hearing in their offices, but many will not. We look at all of the Kindergarten physicals as they are submitted, and we would love for all of the pediatricians to perform Vision & Hearing in their offices.

Comment- Dr. Ryan – will speak with area pediatricians about it.

HB1069-LGBTQ-Pronouns, Bathrooms, Nicknames.

Parent must sign authorization form for school to call a student by any other name than their birth certificate name.

Q: Olga L.- Scott vs Scotty? A: JG-yes, even for that.

Q: Dr Ryan-If a student goes by middle name? A: JG-yes, choosing to be called by middle name versus first name requires parent authorization.

Pronouns- School staff is not required to use students' preferred pronouns.

Kimberly Joy- School staff may also not use their own preferred pronouns while at work, if they differ from their biological sex pronoun.

Bathroom use must be by sex at birth. Campuses are required to install single-stall bathrooms for students to use if they prefer to not use gendered bathroom.

Q: Lauren DePaola-Are the nurses required to follow up on the single-stall bathrooms being installed?. A: JG- no, the principals are.

Q: Are new bathrooms being built? A: JG- Not to my knowledge

Johnelly Green- New bill requiring schools to provide menstrual products to students throughout the day. This is something Alachua County has already been providing for years, they are purchased by the Health Services department. We only provide maxi pads, we do not provide tampons due to risk of infection and inappropriate use.

Habitudes - Kimberly Joy

In previous years, mental health education would educate students on signs and symptoms of mental health crisis, when and how to seek help and support. Habitudes is a new curriculum – 6-12th grade - that is centered around life skills, resilience, and safe usage of internet. To be in

compliance with new state laws, these lessons are done once a month, in the classroom by the teachers.

Q: M. Milinkovic- teachers have been giving feedback of not feeling qualified to give this info to the students. A: K. Joy There are resources, videos and presentations, counselors, to help with this issue.

Q: Lauren- how does Habitudes discuss gender identity? A: It does not and per the legislation, we cannot discuss gender identity

Q: Jyoti- Is there a Screening for this mental health education? A: Teachers can bring at risk concerns to the school counselors. This is not to gage a risk, more so for education.

Q: JG: Could you give us an example of one of the lessons? A: Imagery of a porcupine vs. a koala, a lesson on character, with a 20-30 minute video and discussion.

Q: JG - what subject is it taught in? A: It varies by subject and teacher, they take turns on who teaches it.

Q: Lauren-Any other curriculum for younger students yet? A: Joy- The Safer-Smarter Kids curriculum is being used for elementary ages at the moment.

Email Questions – questions were sent to Johnnelly Green via email prior to the meeting:

1. Are the air purifiers in the schools still being used? A - Johnnelly: Yes, they continue to be used, custodial department handles the replacement of the filters.

2. There is concern that students are not given time to use the restroom during the school day, having to hold all day, giving rewards for not using bathroom pass. A - Johnnelly: This needs to be brought up to the principal if there is a medical need, a 504 plan can also be implemented if necessary.

M. Milinkovic-Safety is a concern when too many students go to the bathroom at the same time. Fights, drug use, and inappropriate activity is occurring in the bathrooms. There is a raised initiative to avoid students spending time in the bathroom unnecessarily.

3. Will there be an attendance campaign in the district, and will it include a reminder of the district's sick policy, to avoid students attending school when they are sick? A - Johnnelly: the district continues to use the same sick policy we have used for years, it is in our nursing handbook and website. Policy is sent home with a sick student, notifying parent of when student may return to school.

Dr. Ryan -Flu is increasing in the community, urges everyone to get vaccine.

Next meeting is in December, a Doodle Poll survey will be sent.

Meeting adjourned: 12:55PM