

SMYER ISD
WELLNESS/SHAC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2023

Smyer ISD Wellness/SHAC met on March 8, 2023. The following committee members were in attendance: Matt Pond, Shari Blount, Summer Stracener, Jessica Anthony, Micah Oliver, Whitney Funke, Rosy Rivera, Lori Rodriguez, Brandi McInroe, Erin Norman, and Patricia Villanueva. Via Zoom: Christopher St. Clair and Samantha McGowan. The meeting was audio recorded, as well as a Zoom option was available. All members were notified of the requirement of audio recording of meetings, and that this meeting was being recorded.

The meeting was called to order by Summer. She ensured all members present signed in and were accounted for, as well as she documented the Zoom meeting participants. The committee reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting, the minutes had been provided previously via email to committee members, as well as posted to the Smyer ISD website. Goals met were providing physical activity and daily recess for elementary students. Nutrition was promoted through nutrition posters in the cafeteria. Nutrition standards were met with offering a nutritious breakfast and lunch being served in the cafeteria daily, following USDA and TDA guidelines to all students, at no charge. Members from different representations were present including staff, parents, grandparents, and community members.

Summer Stracener, RN reported as per requirements, the agenda for all meetings of the SHAC committee are to be posted 72 hours prior to SHAC meetings. The agenda for this meeting was posted online on 3/2/2023 by Mr. Wade. The new and updated wellness plan and all minutes from past meetings are available to the public on the school's website, as per State law. Today's meeting minutes will be posted to the website, along with the audio recording of the meeting within the timeframe required.

Summer reported for Community/Family Involvement that she and Mr. Pond were approached by Brandi McInroe, parent of a 6th grader and 4th grader, about whether Smyer provides a "backpack program", or any snacks/nonperishable goods for students to take home on the weekends, during extended breaks from school or over weekends. Mrs. Norman reported she believed Smyer used to do something such as this years ago, but it hasn't been done in a very long time. During open discussions at the end of the meeting, the committee revisited this subject. Please see this information below.

For counseling/guidance, the school counselor, Jo Hodnett, reported that she has been administering PSAT/SAT, and practice STAAR tests. The elementary had the benchmark testing last week. STAAR testing is on the district schedule for April/Early May.

For Nutrition Services, Rosy Rivera and Lori Rodriguez attended the meeting from the school cafeteria. They reported the menu can be found updated at the beginning of every month on the SISD website. There were some concerns presented on social media at one point about the cafeteria. Rosy wanted everyone to know that a thorough investigation was done on the concerns, and no merit was found to any of them. They have been continued to be reviewed and no problems have been found. Rosy also reported that they will be beginning something new for the students after Spring Break. It will be a "Lucky Tray" game and students will have a number on the bottom of their tray. If their number is drawn for the day, they will win a prize. They are still working on the final logistics of this program, but she believes it will increase student involvement in the cafeteria line and hopes more students will want to get their tray.

Mrs. Locke was unable to attend today to report but informed Summer there were no new updates to Physical Education and there were no other new reports on physical education today. Summer reports that Mrs. Locke usually begins working on The Physical Fitness Assessment Initiative (formally FitnessGram) in April and early May.

Summer Stracener, school nurse, reported for Healthy School Environment/Policy, we are continuing to follow guidelines for student body and staff wellness provided by administration, including hand sanitization, and screenings from the nurse on sick children, sending them home if they meet the criteria from the school nurse's protocol to be sent home. Parents and guardians are continuing to be asked to keep their children home if they are running a fever or have any symptoms consistent with contagious illnesses. Parent screenings at home before sending students to school are helpful with family/community involvement for the health of our school. As of November 14, rapid COVID testing is no longer being performed in the nurse's office. There have been several illnesses circulating in school such as the stomach bug, flu, and strep throat. She reports children are still encouraged to have healthy hand hygiene and good handwashing habits, as well as continuing to teach healthy eating habits.

Summer Stracener provided an employee health update, stating she continues to screen employees for symptoms of illness, helps employees if they have medical needs or concerns. She reports the Covenant Wellness Bus will be scheduled for next year as soon as the 2023-2024 District Calendar comes out. That may help Smyer get a better time slot for staff on a teacher workday if we get it scheduled early enough.

Summer reports for Health Education that the anti-vaping curriculum, "Vaping: Know the Truth", is set to launch for 7th-12th grades when Mr. Schaap sends it out to students. He will be able to monitor which students have completed the program. The program offers other lessons as well that could potentially be sent to students. Mrs. Funke requested that we see if Mr. Wade and Mr. Pond would allow 6th grade students to participate in the program as well. Summer said she would ask to add 6th grade. Senior CPR was taught by Summer on 3/2/23 to all 37 students in the senior class. She reports it went well and she had great involvement. Mrs. Pearce approached Summer and asked if it was possible to begin teaching CPR to the seniors earlier than the Spring Semester, or possibly even Junior year for students. Summer states she will follow up with Mrs. Hodnett and administration to determine if this is a change we could implement next year or not.

The committee began discussion on the "backpack" type program at this time. Brandi McInroe described "Bill's Backpacks", a program that Levelland ISD currently uses to help those in need with snacks over the weekends, breaks, holidays, and summer. She states this program started off as a small group of parents and has now grown to a huge organization that has multiple donations from big companies year-round. She stated some of the children had to "qualify" for the program. Samantha stated that any program like this will take outside funding, so we will need to investigate possible donors for help. It was discussed by Samantha and Patricia agreed, that if we did bring something like this to Smyer; all children should be allowed to partake if they would like. The committee agreed that we could all begin "research" on beginning a project such as this and the committee will discuss in emails all information they have gathered. Summer stated she will look on the legality side of offering something like this through the school. It was even mentioned to ask the owners of the new gas station in town, The Horseshoe, if they would be interested in helping the school with this. Summer will take all information discussed through the committee to Mr. Wade to see if it were even something he would like to implement and present to the board.

Summer states for everyone to communicate with each other via email, ensuring to "Reply All" to each other so all members are knowledgeable on what is being discussed. Everyone stated agreement.

Summer reports a free dental program that she just received information about. She states she will forward all information she received to the committee members for their review, and we will discuss at the next meeting about introducing this to students in the 2023-2024 school year.

The meeting was adjourned at 03:29pm.

After Adjourning the meeting, Mrs. Hodnett let Summer know that she was previously employed at a district in which she organized a "Food Bank" for the community. She stated it was available to every student in the school district, and they found most of the time the children that were the ones in true need of things, were the ones that always showed up to take food. They worked in close proximity with a parolee program through law enforcement. The parolees could donate certain items to the Food Bank, and they would get certain amounts of time reduced depending on what they donated. She suggested possibly looking into whether Hockley or Lubbock County would be interested in assisting Smyer if we did get something going along those lines. Summer told Mrs. Hodnett that she would add this information to the meeting minutes after we were adjourned.

Summer Stracener, RN
School Nurse- 3.8.2023