

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Our mission is for all students to be successful, engaged, lifelong learners.

Program Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 2, 2017

District Office Conference Room

2 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

4:30 p.m.

Members Present

Kathy Clancy, Chairperson

Joel Favazza

Administration Present

Gregg Bach, Asst. Superintendent

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Clancy called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

II. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION

- A. Review of Sexual Education Curriculum** – Mr. Bach reviewed the reproduction/sex/sexuality curriculum and instruction at each grade level (Grades 5-12), including the required standards and current status. He stated that he believes the curriculum that was purchased several years ago is totally inappropriate for fifth graders and indicated that elementary health teachers are not using it for that reason. Mr. Bach recommended looking at a newer curriculum via a search committee involving some health teachers and a parent or two and recommended starting that process this year.

Mr. Bach discussed the curriculum materials that the elementary health teachers are currently using (i.e. Great Body Shop and teacher-created materials). He distributed and reviewed an outline of the curriculum being used at the high school and noted that the health teachers partner with the school nurse practitioner, social worker and adjustment counselor to present information. He discussed the importance of vertical alignment of the curriculum and professional development. He also recommended bringing in a consultant to model essential lessons and coach teachers.

In conclusion, Mr. Bach stated that he would like to focus first on a curriculum for fifth grade and then create a way for middle and high school health teachers to work on their vertical alignment. He would like to use GHS health teacher Rosa Francis as a resource for reviewing the pathway through middle school and implement embedded coaching and modeling of lessons at the middle school. Mr. Bach stated that he will submit a grant in the next couple of weeks for stipend time for health teachers after school and noted that he can always release them with substitutes.

Finally, Chairperson Clancy asked how Ms. Francis may be able to help inform the discussion at the middle school regarding vaping. There was a discussion about the

perception that vaping is harmless and the possibility of having a presentation for parents on the subject. Chairperson Clancy also requested that Mr. Bach talk to Ms. Francis about presenting “The Yellow Dress” again at the high school.

III. ACTION – None.

IV. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by Mr. Favazza, seconded by Chairperson Clancy, it was unanimously

VOTED: 2 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the Program Subcommittee Meeting of November 2, 2017 at 5:07 p.m.

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent’s office.

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*