

MERKEL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 430 Merkel, Texas 79536 Telephone (325) 928-5813 Fax (325) 928-3910



Joseph O'Malley, Superintendent

Minutes for the Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Meeting on 11-9-22

The Merkel ISD Student Health Advisory Council met for the second time during the 2022-2023 school year on November 9, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. in the Merkel ISD Administration Conference Room.

The following members were present:

Joseph O'Malley, Superintendent
Kelli Pedone, MHS, BSN, RN - District RN and SHAC Coordinator/Co-Chair
Daniel L. McDuff, RN, Parent/Co-Chair
K'rin Young, MMS Principal
Brin Reed, MISD Food Service Director
Rachelle Rister, RN, MMS Nurse
Nicki Salas, LVN, MES Nurse
Carol Dunn, MES Health Aide

Meeting called to order at 4:32pm by Kelli Pedone.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed by the SHAC members. No changes or questions.

Staff wellness update given by Kelli Pedone. KitFit had at least 10 staff signed up for October and November. The Fall StepBet finished on October 30th. SHAC members discussed ideas for more staff wellness opportunities. It was mentioned that the MES 5K is on December 10th that staff may participate in. Also, it was decided that we do another StepBet in the Spring, but we will send out a Google survey on preference for signing up for a big StepBet hosted by someone on StepBet, or a smaller StepBet hosted by Merkel ISD. Mr. O'Malley suggested that if we do a Merkel ISD hosted StepBet that we have a few prizes during the course of the challenge. It was decided that we will start the next StepBet January 23rd.

Kelli Pedone presented on the learning opportunities that students have attended so far this school year. Stop the Bleed for MMS students was on October 10th with 8 students in attendance. Communities in Schools (CIS) had a vaping presentation for high school students on October 2th presented by Serenity House that reached approximately 290 students. The vaping presentation at middle school had to be rescheduled and a date is yet to be determined. Stop the Bleed for high school students will be November 14th.

Kelli Pedone presented for Mrs. Byers, high school counselor, regarding speaker topic approval for student presentations regarding dating violence, family violence, abuse prevention and human trafficking. The middle school and high school counselors are interested in a presentation to students titled "Sex and the Law" that teaches those in attendance many of the laws that everyone (10 years old +) are held accountable to under Texas law. There is an emphasis on bullying, sexting and dating violence. There is a program for Pre-K through 5th grade entitled Child Safety First and Forever, which deals with abuse prevention. Parents would be able to opt out of any programs offered.

Mr. O'Malley made a motion to approve the four topics, dating violence, family violence, abuse prevention and human trafficking, and any other presentations, such as vaping, that help to educate and inform the student of Merkel ISD. Brin Reed seconded the motion. All in favor.

Brin Reed informed the SHAC members that the Thanksgiving meal for students and staff will be on November 17th. She also mentioned that the district plans to feed students this summer. However, to allow leeway for the district, Mr. O'Malley made the motion to approve the waiver request to TDA for the Summer Feeding Mandate. Daniel McDuff seconded the motion. All in favor.

Mr. O'Malley would like to invite several students from each campus (middle school and high school) to the next SHAC meeting to provide their insight into school health at their campuses. Mrs. Young will bring the middle school students and Kelli Pedone will discuss with Mrs. Carey who will attend from the high school.

Next meeting date is scheduled for January 18, 2023 at 11:30 with lunch provided.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.