

School Health Advisory Council

October 29, 2010

Attending: Becky Leonard, Minnie Shirey, Page Sayles, Jama Stallings, Monty Riggs, Linda Frederickson, David Engel, Geoufrey Anderson and Marla Peoples.

Minutes were reviewed, approved by Frederickson and seconded by Shirey.

Follow-up from September 17th meeting:

HB 88 Comprehensive Family Life Education – Riggs reports that as of now, there has been no change in his involvement with Health Bill 88, Comprehensive Family Life Education. However the “Plan” that would involve the additional components is on the superintendent’s desk for review and then will go before the Board.

Alliance for a Healthier Generation – Long Mill Elementary School was contemplating going for the gold recognition but there would need to be a lot of changes in the child nutrition program to consider it. Franklinton Elementary School is going for the silver while Cedar Creek Middle School will be vying for the bronze. Stallings and Peoples met with Shauvon Simmons-Wright, Relationship Manager for the Alliance, and she suggested that they try and come up with new initiatives rather than seek recognition. Only one school nationally has achieved the gold status and that school was in New York.

Tdap Vaccines – It is a state requirement that all 6th graders receive the Tdap vaccine. Franklin County Schools provided last May the opportunity to receive this vaccine. Many students were vaccinated, however, there were some students that did not take part nor receive the vaccine over the summer. FCS again offered this initiative the 29th day of school and still had students that did not receive the vaccine. Peoples reports that FCS is considering not offering this initiative in the future because it is very time consuming for the school nurses to check records, the North Carolina Immunization Registry and to get information and permission forms home and back to school.

New Business:

USDA Best Practice Award – The USDA Practice Award is given each year by the Southeast Regional Office to a Child Nutrition Program. There are 14,000 schools in 8 states that the Regional Office represents. Fifteen of those 14,000 were recognized this year at the 2010 fall conference for Best Practice Award. Long Mill Elementary School was one of those schools. Dr. Ingram, Joe Baisley, Kim Ferrell, Terry Alston, Tommy Piper and the school cafeteria manager, Melissa O’Neal all attended a ceremony to recognize Long Mill. Stallings plans to apply again next year and recommend other schools

Healthier US Challenge – Stallings reports that another opportunity for recognition will also involve money and she plans to apply. The school that is recognized could be awarded \$500.00 to \$2,000.00 if they meet the Healthier US Challenge. This however is a partnership and will require the participation from PTA, school nurses, principals etc. to apply for this application.

Field placements for school nurse, school social workers and school counselor – Peoples reports that there has been a tremendous increase in people who want to do their field placements in Franklin County. We had one student from Winston Salem State that wants to shadow a school nurse and 2 social workers that wanted to do their internships here. One needs twelve hours and the other needs 420 hours. A school counselor from NCCU is interested in an internship in the spring.

Gang Survey- Last year the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, of which Riggs and Peoples are members, hired a professor from Barton College to do a survey on gang activity in Franklin County. There have been many departments that have been involved such as the school system, sheriff's department and a team of people at different levels that have been coordinating those efforts. The survey was arranged by the JCPC in an effort to position themselves to be able to apply for grant funding to do gang prevention activities in Franklin County. Riggs will share the results at the next meeting.

Issues regarding diet order/food allergies – There has been a tremendous increase in diet orders and food allergies, especially to peanuts. Stallings and Barbara Bartholomew, Child Nutrition Supervisor, and two school nurses attended a workshop in Raleigh this summer on accommodating students with special dietary needs. They are finding that the biggest problem is understanding what is meant by “honey like”, “spoon thick” etc. or how/what consistency a food need to be according to the student's diet order. The biggest challenge is getting information from the parent. It has been suggested that there be a key person in each school to go to regarding diet orders. Also, doctors are charging extra to fill out forms and this is a factor as well in the parent being able to afford to go back to have the form completed. It was suggested that there be medical alert bracelets for students; bracelets of different colors to stand for certain allergies. Riggs suggested that it would be good if food allergies and/or diet orders could be indicated on the free/reduced forms that are filled out at the beginning of each school year. Stallings will check with DPI.

FCS Student Health Project – Peoples reports that David Engel with Franklin Community Health Center met with the school nurses and discussed the possibility of school based-clinics. Engel will be attending the SCHE conference in Chapel Hill in December to learn more and will share with council members at the next meeting.

Reports from Council Members

Stallings shared a booklet with council members "The Stomach Bug Book". She would also be giving them to school nurses and to principals at the next meeting.

Shirey will share a visual of homeless and migrant students at the December meeting.

Leonard has asked the council if FCHD partnered on anything with FCS, that it be in the minutes as this would be good for their end of year report.

Anderson reports that the new gym renovations have been completed. Thursday is fitness night for BES. Parents are asked to participate with their child. Also, to make transitioning easier Anderson reports that each fifth grader from BES will be shadowing a sixth grader at BMS for a day to see what to expect as a rising sixth grader for the next school year.

Next meeting is December 10th.