

Date: September 14, 2017
For ACTION ____
For INFORMATION ____
Board Agenda: Yes ____
No ____

FROM: Julie Crawford, Ed.D.
Chief Student Services Officer

THROUGH: Lois F. Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Ramee A. Gentry, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: School Health Advisory Board 2016-2017 End of Year Report

BACKGROUND:

The School Board has a strong commitment to citizen participation. The Board appoints advisory committees to provide opportunities for citizens to advise the School Board on major issues pertaining to Alexandria schools. Pursuant to School Board Policy BCF-1, an annual report of recommendations is provided to the Board of Education. In response to the recommendations made by the School Health Advisory Board (SHAB), the information below is submitted for your consideration.

SUMMARY:

The following information provides the SHAB 2016-17 End of Year Report with the ACPS response following each SHAB report item.

The SHAB accomplished the following items during SY 2016-2017:

- Encouraged health access for uninsured students by analyzing Alexandria insurance data and supporting ACPS outreach efforts
- Continued to monitor ongoing programs, needs and implementation of school-based healthcare initiatives including care provided by the School Nurses, the Teen Wellness Center, and the WOW Dental Bus
- Promoted programs and developed measures in an effort to identify and begin decreasing childhood obesity
- Continued to monitor and assess alignment of ACPS physical education and nutrition practices with research based best practice standards
- Encouraged development of supplemental physical fitness initiatives and programs across the Division

- Monitored implementation of ACPS 2020 Strategic Plan Goal 5: Health and Wellness, and encouraged incorporation of measurable health data into ACPS dashboard
- Continued to monitor student issues associated with substance abuse and mental health by reviewing available student data (i.e., Developmental Assets Survey)
- Reviewed Family Life Education (FLE) elementary curriculum and implementation plan
- Encouraged SHAB involvement in review of School Board policies related to health and wellness, when possible
- Reviewed Food Allergy Guidelines JHCF-R2 and provided recommendations for changes to the current regulation

SHAB Recommendations and Staff Response

SHAB REPORT ITEM 1:

SHAB recommends that ACPS continue Health Access education and outreach.

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS will continue outreach activities to ensure that all families have access to health care. SHAB's support has been pivotal to these efforts.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 2: No recommendation

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS appreciates the commendation related to increasing dental services and WOW Bus expansion. Staff will continue to look for opportunities to expand partnerships in this area.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 3:

SHAB recommends investigating the feasibility of adding a height and weight measurement to the 3rd grade screening for hearing that all ACPS students receive.

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS will continue to collaborate with the Alexandria Health Department (AHD) on the BMI data analysis. Staff plans further conversations with the AHD and SHAB on the usefulness of the data collection at third grade. ACPS is looking forward to the Kindergarten BMI Surveillance Report 2014-2016 being released shortly. Thank you to AHD and SHAB members for their work on the completion of this project.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 4:

SHAB recommends that the School Board request division-wide best practice guidelines from staff about sex/gender equality in physical education. SHAB

advises such guidelines be presented to Administrators to set clear expectations for physical education teachers division-wide, including those implementing the Summer PE program.

SHAB also recommends that ACPS communicate with families and develop a plan for students to receive the CPR/First Aid/AED training prior to their graduation.

STAFF RESPONSE:

Staff in the Office of Curriculum Design and Instructional Services, specifically Health, Physical Education and Family Life are reviewing Title IX compliance with health and PE teachers. This includes recent training during pre-service week where staff provided an overview of Title IX, related research findings, and best practices. Follow-up work is being planned with area experts in Title IX best practices in PE instruction. Additionally the Title IX process is publically available on the ACPS website including contact information for the compliance coordinator.

Currently, ACPS provides required training for CPR/First Aid/AED in 9th grade physical education classes. For new students who enter without the required training and those current students who did not have training during the 2016 summer school, Health and PE staff and school counselors will be in contact with families to outline opportunities to complete these requirements.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 5: No specific recommendation

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS supports the incorporation of movement into daily activities and will continue to collaborate with schools to increase these opportunities for students.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 6:

SHAB recommends a review of accurate attendance records processes to find a solution toward increasing the accuracy of attendance reporting at all schools.

SHAB suggests ACPS brief SHAB on their future Goal 5 performance updates.

SHAB also recommends research into other metrics for Goal 5 that may be useful to report on the dashboard.

STAFF RESPONSE:

Additional training for teachers on reporting daily class attendance will be conducted this fall.

Staff will continue to update SHAB on the performance in strategic plan goal 5.

KPIs for Goal 5 will be reviewed as a part of the ACPS 2020 review process, and any adjustments will be made as a part of this process. We will look into

other metrics for potential reporting on the dashboard.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 7:

SHAB recommends the YRBS / Developmental Assets briefing schedule commence with the 2017-2018 school year.

STAFF RESPONSE:

As with previous survey administration, the results for the YRBS and Developmental Assets survey will be presented to SHAB, staff and related community groups. The ACPS School Board recently received the YRBS results for their review.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 8:

SHAB recommends the standardization of how FLE is implemented across all schools to ensure that all students are receiving the same style and quality of instruction.

SHAB recommends that all students and families continue to be advised about the individual choice to opt-out of HGD, but recommends that counselors and administrators not advise or encourage students to opt-out.

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS works regularly with principals regarding assignment for FLE instruction to ensure that the selected staff members have proper training. Presently there is variability in schools on who instructs FLE; therefore, we will continue to review scheduling and to build capacity of trained staff at each school.

While Human Growth & Development (HGD) is not a state requirement for graduation, it is a local decision to require the course while providing families the option to opt-out. The opt-out form is in the ACPS Program of Studies. Health and PE staff will meet with counseling staff at the secondary level (grade 8-12) to review ACPS's approach to HGD programming and the options of when the class can be taken as opposed to an immediate opt-out. ACPS will continue to communicate to families and students their right to opt-out as a part of the academic planning process.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 9:

SHAB, therefore, recommends that staff amendments to health policy and related guidelines be presented to the full SHAB membership in advance of presentation to the School Board and with sufficient notice for proper review. If staff submits an amended health policy or guideline without approval by SHAB, SHAB recommends staff be expected to present amendments with an explanation of why SHAB was not involved.

SHAB recommends that staff be expected to present any SHAB-approved health policy or guideline amendments to the School Board

within the same school year.

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS values the partnership with SHAB work and will continue to solicit feedback when health-related policies are up for School Board review. Staff will review any feedback and policy recommendations that are provided. As a part of this review, ACPS staff will determine which recommendations are included in the drafted policy presented to the School Board. Please note that changes may be made to regulations without School Board approval; however, major changes are typically presented to the School Board. Additionally there may be times when a statutory policy change must be made prior to a full SHAB meeting.

SHAB REPORT ITEM 10:

SHAB recommends that ACPS personnel interacting with students be trained on the updated guidelines. SHAB encourages a public announcement about the updated guidelines for community awareness purposes. SHAB further advises that parents and guardians of students with known life-threatening food allergies be provided individually with guidelines and given a contact person for specific questions about food allergy safety.

STAFF RESPONSE:

ACPS approved the Food Allergy Guidelines as a regulation that accompanies Policy JHCF. A significant part of the guidelines refer to training for staff. Additionally, ACPS school health staff will continue current practice of identifying chronic health needs of students and will develop or refine an individual health care plan. As a part of this process last year, parents of students on an individual health care plan were notified of their rights under Section 504. This coordination takes place at the school level by school health staff. ACPS will also utilize communications channels, such as ACPS Express, to alert the community to the updated document.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board accept the School Health Advisory Board's SY 2016-2017 End of Year Report.

ATTACHMENTS: School Health Advisory Board 2016 - 2017 End of Year Report

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