

Human Sexuality Advisory Committee
March 8, 2011, Meeting Minutes

Present: Cindy Scharns, Mary Jo Andrysiak, Karen Lukowski, Sharon Driscoll, Suzanne Allen, Michelle Herzing, and Ed terSteeg.

Ed terSteeg called the meeting to order at 3:04. Given no public comments the regular meeting began immediately.

Mary Jo Andrysiak moved that the February 8, meeting minutes be adopted as presented. Sharon Driscoll supported the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Michelle Herzing reported to the committee the following regarding proposed Middle School options and how they may be used to support the Human Sexuality curriculum at the Middle School:

- A seven period schedule is being presented to the Board of Education for consideration. It is expected that the Board will take action on the proposal at their April 18, meeting.
- The 8th Grade Health class is a requirement for all students. Reproductive health curriculum; including information regarding HIV/STI/Aids, is presented. It is used for a required high school graduation credit.
- The 7th Grade Science class which is required of all students will be used to present information regarding HIV/STI/Aids information; no reproductive health instruction will be included. The Middle School Michigan Model HIV/STD Curriculum, "Growing Up and Staying Healthy" would be a viable option to use.

If the Middle School Michigan Model HIV/STD Curriculum, "Growing Up and Staying Healthy" is considered to be a program of choice, we then will need to conduct two public meetings and submit to the Board of Education for adoption consideration.

- The 6th Grade Physical Education class will be redesigned to include HIV/STI/Aids and reproductive health instruction.

- Second Step, which is a 15 lesson violence prevention program dealing with decision making, building positive self-esteem, and building relationships, will be used in Grades 6 - 8 with all students to support in part the Building Positive Self-Esteem and Building Relationships part of the Grade 6 - 8 Reproductive Health Curriculum.

Cindy Scharns and Sharon Driscoll reported the following regarding the training they received on February 9, 2011, at the Kent Intermediate School District:

- Concerning the "All A-Twitter: Teens, Sex, and Technology" training they reported that it provided a great deal of information regarding the use of technology, such as Face Book, Skype, Twitter, texting, etc., and potential dangers in terms of personal safety. It was strongly suggested that school employees should not engage with students in any technology venues such as Face Book, personal texting, Skype, etc. The committee acknowledged the use of Moodle as a means to keep students and parents aware of educational assignments, expectations, and progress, but did not understand or support the use of other technologies such as Face Book, Skype, Twitter, texting, etc. as an appropriate means to communicate with students and/or parents.

Additionally, it was the committee thinking that the primary responsibility for teaching about the potential dangers of technology in terms of personal safety should be with those teaching about technology. It was advised that those teaching the Reproductive Health Curriculum may include a discussion regarding the use of technology, but no specific materials will be recommended for adoption consideration.

It was suggested that Tammy Maginity and/or Tim Everett consider providing district employees with a professional development training option(s) regarding the use of technology and personal safety.

Cindy Scharns volunteered to review current Board policy and/or employee user agreements regarding the use of technology as an instruction tool and report back regarding district expectations and/or limitations.

- Concerning "What About the Boys? - Teaching About Sexuality Accurately and Effectively with Teen Boys" the committee saw the value of using the instructional strategies found to be more effective with middle school aged

boys. It was acknowledged that given what Sharon learned it would be easy for her to use the effective instructional strategies in her 8th Grade Health classes.

Cindy Scharns and Ed terSteege registered to take part in free Michigan Department of Education webinars designed for Human Sexuality Advisory Board leaders. On March 16, the topic is The Year Two Report. Cindy and Ed will share the information gathered at the April committee meetings.

To Do List -

- The committee set a goal of updating the District K-12 Scope and Sequence chart and making sure it is aligned with the A-K MDE requirement. In this way the committee will be aware of what we have in place and what we need to put in place to meet the requirements.
- Meeting dates and times for 2011 - 2012.
- "Talk Often, Talk Early" - How and when do we conduct in Pennfield?

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00. The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2011. The meeting will be held in the High School Conference Room and will begin promptly at 3:00. Please contact Cindy Scharns at branchetc@aol.com or Mary Jo Andrysiak at andryiam@pennfield.net, if you have agenda items and/or are not able to attend the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed terSteege, Recording Secretary