

Agenda March 16, 2010, 3-5 p.m.

Safe Schools Coalition Meeting

Facilitating: Beth Reis; Recording: Penny Palmer

INTROS ... Beth Reis, Public Health – Seattle & King County and SSC Co-Chair; **Briana Herman-Brand**, SSC and AFSC's Outspoken Manager; **Matt Munson**, Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and SSC Co-Secretary; **Mo Lewis**, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; **Penny Palmer**, SSC Intervention Coordinator and SSC Co-Secretary

(1) SSC LEADERSHIP TEAM

SHARING TIME

a) Mo Lewis shared about her project to work on internet safety for youth. She will be developing focus groups of teens and will also develop a leadership group to do outreach and training. Matt said he might have a group of youth interested in working on this project.

b) Matt Munson shared he has developed lesson plans for the film "*Straightlaced*". This includes a two day, two session plan working with gender boxes. Matt agreed to put the lesson plans on the SSC website in the near future. Beth noted that the activity entitled "heterosexual questionnaire" is intended as irony, but that satire isn't always understood or appreciated and that it can backfire as a teaching tool. Matt will consider the feedback.

(2) LAW & POLICY WORK GROUP REPORT – Beth for Jennifer and Lonnie

- a) Representative Lias' anti-harassment bill (HB2801-S) passed and has gone to the Governor to sign ... <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=2801>
- b) Representative Tomiko-Santos' anti-discrimination in schools bill (SB3026) passed and has gone to the Governor to sign ... <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=3026>
- c) There is concerned that the Governor's office may get pressure to use her line-item veto to kill section 5 (which would allow parties who experience discrimination to sue in civil court). The Safe Schools Coalition sent a letter to the Governor (attached), encouraging her to sign the bill "**as passed**" and also sent a message to our list subscribers encouraging them to do the same.
- d) Action Taken: The decision was made to follow up the letter with a call to the Governor's Office to see if she was going to sign the bill "**as passed**" and if there is going to be a signing ceremony. Penny volunteered to make the call. The Governor's Office did not know the answer to either question but will call Penny when they have more information.

(3) LISTSERV REPORT – Beth

- a) Welcome to new subscribers from:
- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| → Seattle, WA (3) | → Newmarket, | → Tempe, AZ |
| → Vancouver, WA | Ontario, Canada | → Tacoma, WA |

(4) WEB SITE REPORT – Gabi

- a) The site got 237,066 hits and 53,112 page views in February.
- b) The site was utilized by 15,232 unique individuals in February, 2010 (up 4.8% over last month) from 114 countries (up 9.6% over last month). The four countries with the most visitors, in order, were the U.S., France, China and Canada. But we also had visitors from places where students and teachers may feel much more isolated such as Gibraltar, the Republic of Georgia, Namibia and Ecuador.
- c) We conducted a survey of users to assess the web site and to provide data to the King County Community Organizing Program, which had provided us a mini-grant.
 - Those who completed the survey were entered in **a drawing with \$50 going to the non-profit or school designated by the winner ...** so congratulations to **The Attic Youth Center** in Philadelphia and thank you to all who took the survey.
 - Survey findings included these:
 - ♦ 89% agreed (45% "strongly") that, "**I found resources on this web site that I will use.**"

- ♦ 39% agreed (17% “strongly”) that, “This web site helped me feel less alone or isolated.”
- ♦ 78% agreed (33% strongly) that “I will share things in my school, family or community that I found on this web site.”
- ♦ 67% agreed (22% “strongly”) that “This web site gave me people or agencies to connect with.”
- ♦ 61% agreed (39% “strongly”) that “This web site gave me ideas or tools for reducing bullying and violence in school.”

(5) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

- a) No new member applications this month
b) If your organization has not renewed for 2010, please do. Go to http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members_join-renew.html

(6) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny

- a) Calls from the dispatchers at King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC) crisis line = 6
- b) The bullying case of the fifth grader from Western WA is ongoing. The school district is being uncooperative regarding the plan developed to keep the child safe.
- c) The aunt trying to help her nephew, who is just coming out, is ongoing.
- d) We had a call from Massachusetts regarding a 7 yr old girl being bullied by an 8 yr. old boy. The girl was continually being disciplined for fighting back.
- e) We had a call from Pennsylvania regarding a parent who took her children out of a school due to bullying but is now having a bad experience in a cyber-school.
- f) HELP NEEDED: Due to the increased number of calls from out-of-state, we are looking for volunteers to the intervention team to both join the team as Intervention Specialists and as researchers for good referrals when callers are not in WA. Please contact Penny if you are interested: <mailto:intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org>.**

(7) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana, Beth

a) Training/speaking gigs

Date:	Location:	Trainers:	Audience Total:
2/23	Antioch University	Beth	25
2/27	Mt Vernon High School	LT, Kyle	
2/27	WEA Minority Affairs Human Rights Symposium	Beth	15
2/27	WEA Minority Affairs Human Rights Symposium	Beth	25
3/12	Schools Out WA	Briana	25

Upcoming: Ingraham High School 3/23
 We have also offered to help train Gay City's new hotline staff; they're interested.

b) Outreach

Date:	Location:	Tablers:
2/25	School Age Care Resource Fair	Beth

Upcoming: Child Safety Fair 4/24

c) LGBTQ Youth Panels

Upcoming: Science and Management of Addictions Panel 3/25
Chief Sealth 4/5
Mayors Youth Forum 4/8
West Seattle High 4/13

d) Announcements:

**SSC Orientation Training for new volunteers: May 8, 10-2pm in Seattle.
Interested? Contact Briana@safeschoolscoalition.org**

(8) FISCAL REPORT – Beth

- a) **HELP NEEDED: A volunteer has agreed to organize the web part of an online auction for the Coalition. We need 3 volunteers, anywhere in the world, to work with her on obtaining auction items and publicizing it. Perhaps you have a youth group that is interested in helping or maybe you can only donate /find one item. Any help will be greatly appreciated and will also help fund the SSC projects for this year. Interested? Contact: Michelle. ... <mailto:michelle@safeschoolscoalition.org>**
- b) **HELP NEEDED: More phone banking, but on your own time in your pajamas! Your lists or ours! Contact Beth if you can help ... <mailto:beth@safeschoolscoalition.org>**
- c) **We had Taco Time coupon booklets to sell but this year the timing was not sufficient to get them out.** Next year we will try to get them into a Taco Time store so their customers can purchase them directly. Thank you to Taco Time NW for providing a way for non-profit organizations to make money.
- d) Donors since last months' meeting include these *wonderful* individuals and families:
 - *Roberta Adams* → *Jeannie Hale*
 - *Rachael Brister* → *Lonny & Mary Holleman*
 - *Margery Dickinson* → *Sheila Khalov*
 - *Tawney & Bob Collins-Feay* → *Karen Kulm*
 - *Alison and Bill Enochs* → *Carole Miller*
 - *Kevin Fetner, President of PFLAG* → *Julia Piercey*
 - *Walla Walla* → *Jason Plourde*
 - *The Gerber-Perham Family* → *Shad Reinstein & Jody Laine*
 - *Jan Goodman*
- e) **Please donate right now, online: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/donate.html> !**

(9) PRIDE PLANNING – Beth

- a) "SGN" wants us to buy ad space. We also may want to advertise in the "Stranger" to get a more diverse readership. Our goal is to provide information about our services and promote donations to enable us to continue services. As money is a factor, we will check on cost for ads in both papers. We probably will buy a business size ad in the "SGN".
- b) People felt that having folks table after the parade would be a higher priority than purchasing ad space.

(10) TRANSGENDER POLICIES - Lisa Love from the Seattle School District staffs an ongoing LGBTQ Advisory Committee. Among the projects they are considering is one proposed by the Coalition: to get the district to adopt a policy regarding equity and nondiscrimination with respect to transgender and gender variant students, like those Los Angeles and San Francisco districts have adopted. **Anyone that thinks it is important for the district to**

adopt a such a policy should contact Lisa to offer their help:
<mailto:LLove@seattleschools.org>

- (11) WELCOMING SCHOOLS PROJECT:** The Human Rights Campaign is partnering with the Coalition to provide a workshop for the training of organizers April 29th, 2010 to help them help elementary schools address gender, bullying and family. Registration is required and 6-7 teams have already registered and many more are expected so get your registration in ASAP.
- (12) RAPID RESPONSE NETWORK** – Brianna Herman Brand is our representative to this National collaboration. The purpose of the national team is to help schools or districts when under attack from organizations working against LGBTQ safety and inclusion.
- (13) LINKS & ALLIANCES:** We received a lovely “Certificate of Appreciation” for our support of the Links and Alliances conference. Thank you, Snohomish County Health District.
- (14) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:** A question was brought up as to how we could let districts know about San Francisco and Los Angeles public schools’ policies re: trans and gender variant students and that the SSC is available to provide technical assistance and to support community organizing if champions want their districts to consider adopting similar ones. Beth suggested we contact WSSDA, the Washington State School Directors Association or partner with the Seattle School District’s LGBTQ Advisory Committee to do so, in order to provide information via a meeting, lunch etc. See the policies here:
<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/SF-UnifiedSchoolDistTransPolicy.pdf>
<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/LA-UnifiedSchoolDistTransPolicy.pdf>

UPCOMING MEETINGS ... contact the chair if you have agenda items to suggest or if you need instructions about attending (in person) or calling in (by conference call). All are welcome - you do NOT need to be a Coalition member to attend.

April 20th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Stefanie facilitates and Heather Carter records. Stefanie:

May 18th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Frieda facilitates Matt records. Frieda:
questions@safeschoolscoalition.org

June 15th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Kyle facilitates and Matt records. Kyle: 206-322-6711 ext 32190;
KRapinan@casey.org