

Minutes 6-15-10, 3-5 p.m. PDT
Safe Schools Coalition Meeting
Facilitating: Beth Reis; Recording: Frank Couch

Present in person: Betsy Wells, Marilyn Hoppe, Blair Beadnell and Diane Morrison – all from University of Washington School of Social Work; Beth Reis – Public Health – Seattle & King County and Co-Chair of SSC; Frank Couch – Science And Management of Addictions (SAMA) and Co-Secretary of SSC; Heather Carter – Youth Suicide Prevention Program(YSP) and Co-Secretary of SSC; Kyle Rapiñan – University of Washington Q Center and Co-Chair of SSC; Mo Lewis – King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; Penny Palmer – Intervention Chair and Co-Secretary of SSC; Liezl T. Rebugio – ACLU of Washington; Joseph Luther – individual; Davis Sharon – individual

Present by Phone: Gabi Clayton – PFLAG Olympia, Families United Against Hate, Youth Guardian Services and SSC Web Spinner

INTROS ... welcome new faces/voices

(1) MATT MUNSON IS LEAVING PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Thank you for your hard work as co-secretary, Matt!

(2) FRANK COUCH IS STEPPING UP AS CO-SECRETARY

Frank Couch, who works for the Science and Management of Addiction Foundation, has agreed to join the Leadership Team and serve as co-Secretary. He continues to serve as an Intervention Specialist, as well. Thank you, Frank.

(3) REPORT ON THE Q-VOICES PROJECT – Betsy, Blair, Diane, Marilyn

Elizabeth “Betsy” Wells, Ph.D., Research Professor at the University of Washington School of Social Work and a team from UW presented their findings from the “Q-Voices project.” The Q Voices project was an anonymous online survey exploring the needs of LGBTQ youth in the United States ages 14-19. For more about their vitally important findings, contact Betsy: bwells@u.washington.edu

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

- a) Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 3026 gave the Office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) authority to monitor and enforce school districts’ compliance with state and federal **civil rights laws**. OSPI is now engaged in drafting rules. The SSC Law & Policy Work Group has given input to OSPI by attending and generating attendance at town hall meetings around the state and by sending written feedback (which we will attach to the meeting minutes).
- b) Substitute House Bill 2801 directed OSPI, WSSDA, and the Office of the Education Ombudsman (OEO) to revise and update the current WSSDA model policy on **Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying** by August 1, 2010. Members of the Work Group will be attending a stakeholders’ meeting at WSSDA tomorrow to give input. We are considering proposing that the state use Seattle’s policy <http://www.seattleschools.org/area/policies/d/D49.00.pdf> and, especially, procedure <http://www.seattleschools.org/area/policies/d/D49.01.pdf> as a starting point, in lieu of the old state models (<http://www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/pubdocs/3207.pdf> and <http://www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/pubdocs/3207P.pdf>).
- c) Work Group members will be meeting this week and next with several **legislators** regarding these rules and model policies (in 4a and b above) and about their 2011 legislative agendas.
- d) Equal Rights Washington created “Safe Schools Don’t Discriminate” stickers for the town hall meetings. Thank you.
- e) We discussed SSC’s possible 2011 legislative agendas. We noted that the economy is not expected to have recovered before this legislative session; we will be in a deficit mode. We delayed actual decisions until the July meeting. Proposals we discussed:

Possible Safe Schools Coalition Legislative Priorities for 2011

- Legislation to enhance prevention of bullying in schools and to improve districts' responsiveness when bullying does occur, including that which is bias-based (based on the bully's perception of the targeted individual's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation [defined as including gender identity], or mental, physical, or sensory handicap).
 - ♦ This could include, for example, legislation to enhance the capability of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Governor's Office of the Education Ombudsman to provide on-going, face-to-face and online **training for all school employees** throughout the state regarding law and policy, empathy and social skills, bullying intervention & restorative justice skills, and appreciation for diverse members of the human community. _____
 - ♦ It could also include legislation to require **education of students** to increase their knowledge of law and policy, empathy and social skills, bullying intervention & restorative justice skills, and appreciation for diverse members of the human community. _____
 - Legislation to **track districts' (buildings'?) efforts** and possibly reward their progress in reducing bullying **as measured by the Healthy Youth Survey** and/or the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. _____
 - Legislation somehow triggering **OSPI oversight early in the process** of severe harassment situations, rather than only when a targeted student's family seeks OSPI's help. _____
 - Legislation requiring that a student and their family be **notified** before their abuser returns to school and otherwise strengthening the school's ability to **protect victims** when no-contact orders are in place. _____
 - Legislation – which Rep. Liias is especially interested in -- to create a statewide bullying reduction **work group**. _____
 - Legislation – which we said we would table until 2012 so we could study the idea – like Massachusetts' – to ensure that bullying self-defense would be included in I.E.,P.s of vulnerable students (see the last section of this: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/cnp/news10/0604bullying.html>) ... but I did hear the concern that the victim isn't the one who most needs education. _____
 - Legislation to increase adults' **accountability**, such as that on page 70 of this document: <http://www2.ed.gov/offices/OCR/archives/pdf/AppA.pdf> where it says *"If the harassment complaint official concludes that the policy has been violated by a professional educator or administrator, a report of the findings shall be filed with the Licensing Office of the Vermont Department of Education."* _____
 - Legislation that would allow others (who? For what kinds of violations?) besides superintendents to file complaints about school employees with the OSPI Professional Practices Section, so that they can investigate instances of **staff bullying or intimidating students**. _____
 - Legislation to set up **IEP-like work groups for the on-going safety management** of the needs of harassed students (though the concern was expressed about further stigmatizing these kids)
- f) Thank you for many meetings and much hard work to Jennifer Allen, Lonnie Johns-Brown, Pam Crone, Josh Friedes, Linda Mangel, and Beth Reis. And to the organizations they represent: Planned Parenthood, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, National Organization for Women, Legal Voice, and Washington State Coalition against Domestic Violence, Equal Rights Washington, ACLU-Washington, and Public Health – Seattle & King County.
- (5) **PRIDE PLANNING – Beth**
- a) **Joseph Luther** agreed to do the Costco run.

- b) **To join the contingent** (ride in or walk with the bus, hand out goodies to the crowd, wave and rock the bus) contact Lisa Love <mailto:LLove@seattleschools.org> so we'll know what kind of space we have and how much food and drink to have on hand. Elders and families and people with disabilities are encouraged to ride. GSAs and SSC member orgs are encouraged to walk/ride.

(6) SSC MESSAGE PHONE – Kyle

We decided to switch to a Google phone line for our message phone by July 1, with a message to callers explaining that the line is not confidential and that crisis and confidential callers should hang up and dial 1-877-SAFE-SAFE [1-877-723-3723]. **The Phone line will be unstaffed, there will be a message line and the system will transfer to message line.**

(7) 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. Interested? Contact: Michelle ...** <mailto:michelle@safeschoolscoalition.org> **the auction is set up but will not start until we have auction items. We need help obtaining items for auction.**
- b) Donors since last months' meeting include these *wonderful* individuals and families:
- Pamela Jensen
 - Chris Beahler
- c) **Please donate right now, online:** <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/donate.html> !!!!

(8) WEB SITE(S) REPORT – Gabi

We got 2,381,849 hits in 2009 from 346,281 visitors in 173 countries, for example:

- *Gambia*
- *Tonga*
- *Tajikistan*
- *New Caledonia*
- *Guernsey*
- *Eritrea*
- *Greenland*
- *Djibouti*
- *Palestinian Territory*
- *Saint Kitts and Nevis*
- *Vanuatu*
- *Afghanistan*

(9) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

- a) New member applications this month: NONE
- b) Recent renewals (**thank you!**):
- *GLOBE, c/o Everett/Snohomish PFLAG*
 - *Families United Against Hate*
 - *Youth Guardian Services*

Beth and Gabi indicated that Jeff should be given a big thanks for helping with obtaining contributions for SSC.

- c) **If your organization has not renewed for 2010, please do. Go to** http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members_join-renew.html

(10) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny

- a) Nine calls came in from the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center line (1-877-SAFE-SAFE [1-877-723-3723]) in May. They were dispatched to Safe Schools Coalition volunteer Intervention Specialists.
- b) We sent information and an intervention notebook to a new safe schools coalition in Michigan. We will work together at the end of the summer to help set up their intervention services.
- c) A student with Gender Identity Disorder is moving into large public school in this area. She requested help in dealing with administration and possible trainings for the staff.
- d) Daughters of two mom household have been continually hearing anti-gay comments at school. Mothers wanted to create better school climate and need assistance with information.
- e) 16 yr old girl has been bullied for last three years after coming out as gay. We provided support and problem-solved and made the offer of working directly with the school.

- f) Request for information from SSC and possible volunteer. She had gotten help for her son from SSC in the past. He is doing well now. She has become a strong advocate and even started a non-profit advocate group.
- g) 14 yr. old girl in California had pants pulled off by group of kids. School only willing to suspend one girl. Daughter fearful of retaliation. We problem-solved with the parent and made referrals.
- h) A parent is forming a group to assess and address an administrations failure to adequately clarify their policies on bullying. The group has begun an inquiry to find out what those policies are. They are asking for information regarding our role in the Mt. Si problem and future help with strategies if needed. We will be of help in ways that don't violate previous callers' confidentiality.
- i) A child was being bullied at a private school. We had a meeting with the administration and agreed to several ways to assure his safety.

(11)SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana

Speakers Bureau Manager Report

6/15/10

Speakers Bureau & Training Team

Date:	Location:	Trainers:	Audience Total:
5/26	North Thurston High School	Tim McLeod	22
5/27	Healthy Schools Summit	Briana and Beth	9

Outreach

Date:	Location:	Tablers:
5/19	Inter GSA Meeting	Lisa Love
5/19	Uniting Communities House Party	Briana
5/27	Youth Networking /KTUB	Emily Juhre

Upcoming: Seattle PRIDE! 6/26-6/27
Mid Columbia Pride 7/18

AFSC Panels

Date:	Location:
5/19	Inter GSA Panel
5/28	Healthy Schools Summit
6/3	Orca Race Forum

Upcoming: Roosevelt High 6/16
KCLS 6/24
SOARS 6/25

(12)SERV REPORT – Beth

- a) Welcome to new subscribers from:
 - *Burien, WA*
 - *Seattle, WA (7)*
 - *Tempe, AZ*
 - *Washington, DC (2)*
- b) Jason Hungerford, who manages our listservs through his company Blue Argo, is ill and taking some time off from his work. Our thoughts go out to Jason and his partner." Joseph Luther said he would be willing to take on News and Kyle will think about Jobs
- c) We will eventually launch separate listservs for news, events, etc. and ask everyone to resubscribe. That is on hold as Jason focuses on his health.

(13)SERVING LATINO/A STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Marcos Martinez of Entre Hermanos and Beth met to discuss collaborations on how we can, together, better serve LGBTQ and gender expansive Latino/a youth and Latina/o children with LGBT parents and guardians.

- They may want to take over responsibility for maintaining and growing the Spanish language section of our website.
- They may do a LGBTQ-focused radio show – we discussed issues they might cover of interest to students and families.
- They may use SSC as resource.

(14) SERVING ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Welcoming Schools Project & HRC grantwriters are in conversation with a number of Pacific NW foundations to try to fund a staff person and trainers, to provide assistance to schools all over the state, possibly housed at OSPI in partnership with Safe Schools Coalition.

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.

July 20th, 2-4 pm (summer hours), Pacific Time. Stefanie facilitates and Heather Carter records. Stefanie: 206-930-5174; stefaniefox@gmail.com

August 17th, 2-4 pm (summer hours), Pacific Time. Heather Murphy facilitates and Penny records. Heather: 206-616-6361; hmurphy@u.washington.edu

September 21st, 3-5 pm – back to school year hours, Pacific Time. Kyle facilitates and Frank records. Kyle: 206-322-6711 ext 32190; KRapinan@casey.org