

## Safe Schools Coalition Meeting

Minutes 8-17-10, 2-4 p.m. PDT

Facilitating: Heather Murphy; Recording: Penny Palmer

**Attending:** Beth Reis, Public Health – Seattle & King County, and SSC Co-Chair; Briana Herman-Brand, SSC Speakers Bureau; Frank Couch, Science And Management of Addictions (SAMA) and SSC Co-Sec & Intervention Specialist; Heather Murphy, PhD, Shoreline School District and SSC Co-chair, Penny Palmer, SSC Co-Sec & Intervention Coordinator; and Brittany Cohen, Christina Tolley, and Amy Leang, all of the University of Washington School of Public Health (interning at Public Health – Seattle & King County)

**Call in:** Gabi Clayton, PFLAG Olympia, Families United Against Hate, Youth Guardian Services and SSC Web Spinner

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

- a) **FEDERAL:** The National Association of School Psychologists is supporting Safe Schools legislation. More info on that and their other legislative positions on their web site: <http://capwiz.com/naspweb/home/> . You can also contact your legislators from this site.
- b) **FAMILY PARTNERSHIP – MODEL TOOLS & MEASURES** – update from Sue Ferguson, Heather Carter, Rachel, Frieda. We were invited to participate in the OSPI-convened work group that is designing a tool school districts can use to assess the adequacy of their partnerships with students' families. It was a great meeting and all present were very receptive to our concerns and suggestions. We will keep you informed when the tools are available. Watch your email.
- c) **HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION & BULLYING – STATE MODEL POLICY & PROCEUDRE** – update from Jeff, Beth. We have been participating in the WSSDA-convened work group that is drafting the new model bullying policy and procedure for Washington State. There will be further opportunity for public comment on the draft. Watch your email.
- d) **CIVIL RIGHTS IN SCHOOLS – STATE RULES (WACs)** – update from Frieda, Linda and Gabi. We have been participating in the OSPI-convened work group that is writing the new rules for schools regarding preventing and responding to discrimination. Gabi reported that in the most recent meeting time was spent in small groups discussing a draft. One concern she raised was the challenge for transgender and gender expansive children when classes are separated by gender for sexual health education. More on the new rules will follow. Watch your email.
- e) **MORE 2011 DECISIONS COMING UP**
  - At the September SSC meeting (Sept 21, 3 pm Pacific) we've been asked to consider supporting member orgs' positions re: two issues:
    - (a) Proposed changes to the WA state rules that would allow pharmacists to deny clients Rx meds to which the pharmacist has religious objections
    - (b) Possible legislation to address crisis pregnancy centers' misleading clients regarding their services and the client's legal options
  - **So plan to attend or let us know your opinion, so we can convey it to the group at the Sept 21<sup>st</sup> SSC meeting. Contact Beth:**  
<mailto:beth@safeschoolscoalition.org>

### (2) LIFELONG AIDS ALLIANCE'S ANNUAL AIDS WALK UPDATE – Penny

- a) The walk is on September 25<sup>th</sup>. **Please** come join us by walking, running or donating. **Life Long Aids Alliance** makes a tremendous in-kind contribution to Safe Schools Coalition, donating book keeping services as our fiscal agent. Without them we would have a hard time existing so please help us show our support for this event.

- b) Go to [www.seattleaideswalk.org](http://www.seattleaideswalk.org) and choose to register, donate or sign in. The Safe Schools team is on the main list or you can also donate through Penny Palmer when asked for person coordinating our team. It will be fun and it is for a great cause.
- (3) **WEB SITE(S) REPORT – Gabi**
- We got almost 168,000 hits in July from nearly 26,000 visitors in 105 countries.
  - Jacque Larrainzar of Seattle Office for Civil Rights just provided us with a lot of new Spanish language resources which will be uploaded soon. Gabi will inform you when and exactly what is up via the listserv.
  - The federal version of the SSC Law Quiz is done. **Anyone feel a need and have the time to look it over for readability before we post it to the web site? If so, contact Gabi: <mailto:gabi@safeschoolscoalition.org>**
  - 493 people like our Facebook page (+4 since last week)
- (4) **MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi**
- New member applications this month: NONE
  - Recent renewals (**thank you!**):  
→ *Equality New Mexico*
  - If your organization has not renewed for 2010, please do. Go to [http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members\\_join-renew.html](http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members_join-renew.html)**
  - Letters with renewal requests will be going out shortly**
- (5) **INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny or Beth for Penny**
- Intervention had 4 calls in July from our dispatchers at King County Sexual
  - Assault Resource Center. None required action.
  - We have an ongoing case in Olympia. Gabi is representing SSC.
  - Snoqualmie School District – update from Briana This is still in process as we are waiting for response from the Dept. of Justice. Pride has offered the district money to hire SSC trainers to help if needed.
  - We had two people call to volunteer for the Intervention Team.
  - We had a request for information from the University of Ottawa.
- (6) **SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana**
- AFSC has graciously offered to fund Briana, via SSC, through December to assist in the transition of the youth panel program to Northwest Network. So she remains at half time until then, when her hours drop to 8/week, just supporting SSC's speakers bureau.
  - Recent training/speaking gigs; Upcoming training/speaking gigs – no speakers requested for August
  - Upcoming youth panels; Gay City and Girl Scouts/Americorps
  - Recent outreach tabling; 8/12 Snohomish Early Learning Group – Tabler, Briana
  - AFSC Panels; 8/16 Family Support Workers Panel
- (7) **FISCAL REPORT – Beth**
- Please help us raise much needed funds with a simple donation to our online auction. Items can be a variety of things that you may have around your house or can get someone else or a business to donate. If we each just find one item it will really help us continue to provide our services. We also 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>**
  - Donors since last months' meeting include these *wonderful* individuals and families:  
♦ *Pamela Jensen*
  - Please donate right now, online: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/donate.html> !!!!**
- (8) **LISTSERV REPORT – Beth**
- Welcome to new subscribers from:  
→ *Tacoma, WA*  
→ *Brighton, MA*  
→ *Renton, WA*

→ Dobbs Ferry, NY

- b) We will eventually launch separate listservs for news, events, etc. and ask everyone to resubscribe. That is on hold until end of August at the earliest, as Jason focuses on his health. There will be more information on the database as to who, where etc. our members are.

**(9) PREVIEW THE LATEST, HOT-HOT-OFF-THE-PRESSES TEACHING TOLERANCE FILM**

- a) Entitled ***Bullied: A Student, a School and a Case That Made History***, it is the story of Jamie Nabozny, the first gay youth ever to sue his district and individual administrators for not protecting him from years of anti-gay violence at school. He won nearly \$1 million. SSC has been asked to endorse the film; we agreed to do so, enthusiastically. We will also provide a link on our website, co-host a screening at Seattle LGBT film festival if asked [ed. Note: we have been asked], and offer a quote in their promotional material. Beth suggested and we agreed to this review:

*The film tells the story of Jamie Nabozny, the first gay young person ever to sue his school district for not protecting him from years of anti-gay violence at school. He won the case against the individual administrators and settled for nearly \$1 million. The film humanizes Jamie through his warm, genuine explanation of his childhood. It features him, having grown into a confident man and an eloquent speaker, addressing a student body. It uses a combination of interviews and reenactment to make crystal clear what happened to Jamie at the hands of his peers and the callous responses of his schools' administrators. It shows various strategies Jamie tried in order to survive, along with the efforts of his parents and some of his teachers to act as allies. The courtroom drama segment -- based on actual transcripts -- is an amazing training tool for the continuing education of educators. Every faculty meeting across the country needs to set aside time to show Bullied. And every student body needs an assembly and small group discussions about the film and about all forms of bias-based bullying. It will change norms and offer hope to young people who have been the targets of bullying. As one of his teachers says in the film, "One brave young man ...stood up for millions of others." Jamie changed his school district and other schools all over the country. Jamie himself closes the film by saying to the camera, "If I can do that, anyone can do that."*

- b) For your own **free copy** of the film, go to: <http://www.tolerance.org/bullied>
- c) Thank you, Southern Poverty Law Center

**(10) SHARING TIME** - Queer Youth Space would like to welcome and thank their two new organizers Jasmine Burr and Charisse Bersamina.

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**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.

**September 21<sup>st</sup>**, 3-5 pm – **back to school year hours**, Pacific Time. Kyle facilitates and Frank records. Kyle: [kyle@safeschoolscoalition.org](mailto:kyle@safeschoolscoalition.org)

**Oct 19<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Stefanie facilitates and Heather Carter records. Stefanie: 206-930-5174; [stefaniefox@gmail.com](mailto:stefaniefox@gmail.com)

**November 16<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Heather Murphy facilitates and Penny records. Heather: 206-616-6361; [hmurphy@u.washington.edu](mailto:hmurphy@u.washington.edu)