

Safe Schools Coalition Meeting Minutes 11-17-09, 3-5 p.m. PDT
Facilitating: Heather Murphy; Recording: Beth Reis
HELP NEEDED IN RED

Present:

Beth Reis, SSC co-chair, Public Health – Seattle & King County
Brandon Walter, SSC Media Swat Team member and Youth Eastside Services
Briana Herman-Brand, SSC OUTSpoken Speakers' Bureau Manager
Gabi Clayton, SSC WebSpinner, PFLAG Olympia, Youth Guardian Services, Families United Against Hate
Gwyn Prater
Heather Carter, SSC so-secretary, Youth Suicide Prevention Program
Heather Murphy, PhD, SSC co-chair, Shoreline Public Schools, University of Washington
Ingrid Buchan
Jill Van Glubt, Washington Education Association
Kyle Rapinan, SSC co-chair, Casey Family Programs
Matt Munson, SSC co-secretary, Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest
Megan Kennedy, Youth Eastside Services, producer/director of *Put This on the {MAP}*
Sid Peterson, Kirkland Teen Union, producer/director of *Put This on the {MAP}*

(1) SSC LEADERSHIP TEAM

- a) **SHARING TIME**, where each person says a little about a current project, for networking purposes. People mostly just introduced themselves.
- b) 15 minutes on a **DEEPER QUESTION** each month ... this month: What is the best experience you ever had with trying to raise money for a cause? People shared stories of a great "secret cabaret" house party, some very fun auctions, success in calling and especially doorbelling on behalf of levy votes. The worst? Events, especially benefit concerts, that were very poorly attended despite efforts to publicize them.

(2) LISTSERVE REPORT – Beth

- a) We currently have 847 subscribers in at least **11 countries** (Australia, Belize, Canada, China, Finland, Pakistan, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, United Kingdom, the U.S. and New Zealand), **5 Canadian provinces** (AB, BC, NB, ON, QC) and **46 U.S. states** (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY) plus **Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico**.
- b) **Welcome** to recent subscribers from:

→ <i>St. Peters, Australia</i>	→ <i>Albany, NY</i>	→ <i>Olympia, WA</i>
→ <i>San Francisco, CA</i>	→ <i>Brooklyn, NY</i>	→ <i>Renton, WA</i>
→ <i>(2)</i>	→ <i>Philadelphia, PA</i>	→ <i>Seattle, WA (7)</i>
→ <i>Riverside, IL</i>	→ <i>Arlington, VA</i>	→ <i>Shoreline, WA</i>
→ <i>Malden, MA</i>	→ <i>Burlington, VT</i>	→ <i>Arapahoe, WY</i>
→ <i>Jackson, MS</i>	→ <i>Mount Vernon, WA</i>	

(3) WEB SITE REPORT – Gabi

- a) New **Law Quiz** (specific to Washington State for the moment but soon to lead to a national version) coming to the web site before Thanksgiving. We'll announce its launch via the listserv. Thank you for their pro bono input to ACLU, Lambda Legal, Legal Voice and the WEA! Jill agreed to work on a National version.
- b) People in **113 countries** utilized the site in October of 2009, from the United States and Canada to Senegal, Bermuda, Kyrgystan, Mongolia and Peru. **A total of 16,485 unique individuals tallied over a quarter of a million hits.**
- c) Gabi has updated the "About Us" page with all 6 current co-chairs and 3 co-secretaries: http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/about_us.html#OurLeadership. Any of them who don't already have a <yourname>@safeschoolscoalition.org email address and want one should let Gabi know.

(5) PUBLICATIONS REPORT – Beth

- a) We sent materials pro bono to the Maryville College Gay-Straight Alliance in Maryville, Tennessee. We ordinarily charge (minimally) but were responding to an urgent request.

(6) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

- a) **Pride Foundation, Seattle Counseling Service** and the **Greater Seattle Business Association** (GSBA) renewed their memberships in July.
- b) **Diversity Productions, Friends of Project 10, Lambert House** and **PFLAG of Skagit Valley** renewed in August.
- c) **PFLAG Olympia, Ravenna United Methodist Church, Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition** and **Bellevue PFLAG** renewed in September and October.
- d) Thanks to those member orgs and to **Avanti High School** which joined for the first time in September.
- e) The committee is still working on getting another reminder and paper invoices to those that did not renew yet for 2009.

(7) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny

- a) We had one additional person interesting in volunteering as an Intervention Specialist this month.
- b) INTERVENTIONS THIS MONTH:
 - A call came in from a parent whose child's friend was being bullied continually. The intervention specialist both suggested resources in the area and offered to work with the child directly. *Ongoing*
 - A mother called looking for help as her daughter was being bullied by staff and students. *Ongoing*
 - A mother we worked with in the spring involving bullying emailed with her concerns regarding racial discrimination. She lives East of the mountains and is very frustrated with the lack of help she has received to keep her kids safe in the local school district. We referred her to Washington State Human Rights Commission and are keeping in touch incase other referrals seem appropriate. She has also contacted other agencies.
 - A teacher requested help after being reprimanded for gently moving a student out of the way who was blocking the classroom door. He was referred to his local union rep. and Washington Education Association for advice on how to handle the situation.
- c) NON-INTERVENTION MATTERS handled by the intervention team this month:
 - A request was made for an interview with someone from SSC regarding Ref. 71. Gabi spoke with him and made the connection in case needed information in the future. Thanks Gabi.
 - There was a request for posters.
 - A request from a woman interested in starting a SSC and or getting local resources in Tulsa. Gabi was going to be in that general area to be a keynote speaker and lead a workshop so she volunteered to call her.

(8) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana, Joyful

a) Speakers Bureau & Training Team

Date:	Location:	Trainers:	Audience:
11/2	Morningside Academy	Beth Reis	15

Upcoming: Monroe School Improvement Day 11/30
 Bush School 12/2
 Notre Dame Americorps 12/4

b) Tabling

Date:	Location:	Tablers:
10/21	Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival	Briana Herman-Brand
10/24	Dyke Community Activists Celebration	Tracy Flynn
10/25	Put This On The Map Seattle Premiere	Kyle Rapinan
11/2	UW Queer Resource Fair	Briana Herman-Brand
11/14	Links and Alliances Conference	Kathy Reim

11/14	Put This On The Map Community Leaders Forum	Briana Herman-Brand
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Upcoming: Fall Fitness Festival – **TABLERS NEEDED Nov. 21, 10am-2pm**

c) AFSC Panels

Date:	Location:	Audience:
11/3	UW School of Social Work	20
11/4	UW School of Law	
11/10	New Panelist Training	9 new panelists

Upcoming: Bush School 12/2
Notre Dame Americorps 12/4

d) The future of the AFSC LGBTQ youth program and of youth panels: As some of you know, American Friends Service Committee has decided to end its GLBTQ Youth Program. But the City of Seattle had just decided to grant AFSC monies to support the Speakers Bureau through 2010 when AFSC made that decision. So Joyful is going to propose, at the city's request, AFSC's continuing to hold the grant for at least 6 months and she's hopeful AFSC will agree. That will give Safe Schools Coalition and AFSC time to work with the City for a devolvement plan of some kind.

(9) ENDORSEMENT DECISIONS – Beth

a) **No Name Calling Week, January 25-29, 2010.** Unanimous agreement to become a partner organization. Beth will file paperwork.

(10) BENT ARTS SHOWCASE AD – Beth

a) Thank you to **AFSC** for covering the cost of the ad space and to Stephen Schlott (**Partners in Design**) for the pro bono design of an ad. It was one of only 4 full-page ads and therefore got great visibility to let people know there's somewhere to call if they are getting harassed at school.

(10) FISCAL REPORT -- Beth

a) Where we stand financially & who is taking on tasks to help us survive through 2010.

- **The Coalition is running very low on funds. We need to raise \$50,000 by March.** See attached spreadsheet for commitments people have made so far about their role in helping fundraise.

- **Think about what YOU might be willing to do. A personal donation and a request to your friends, family and colleagues to do the same would be EXCELLENT. A commitment to help phone bank or to help with a variety of other projects would be OUTSTANDING. Contact Beth to let her know if you can help with one of the projects on the spreadsheet:**

beth@safeschoolscoalition.org

b) HUGE thank you to recent donors:

- **Raynier Institute and Foundation**
- *Catherine Ahl*
- *Jennifer Allen*
- *Jessica Chandler*
- *Gabi and Alec Clayton*
- *Betty and Arnold Freund*
- *Pamela Jensen*
- *Ken Molsberry and Chris Vincent*
- *Kathy Pearson*
- *Kyle Rapinan*
- *Beth Reis and Barbara Steele*
- *Jeff Soder*
- *Amy Wiskerchen*
- *Paul Witt and Lynn Winnemore*
- *Thomas J Wyse, Jr.*
- **And, in honor of Jerry Painter, Frieda Takamura**

c) **GSBA** and **AFSC** continue to generously serve as web site sponsors for \$35/month over and above their annual dues.

d) **Many of you** continue to donate *regularly* via payroll deduction. Thank you.

e) You, too, can donate!! **Your donations keep this shoestring operation afloat.** We put every penny to remarkably good use:

- sending volunteers to provide training at conferences and in-service events,

- traveling to school districts to meet with principals where intervention in harassment has reached crisis proportions,
- keeping the content of the web site fresh and meaningful,
- empowering youth and educators to grab onto the media with both hands and use it for social change.

Please donate right now, online: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/donate.html> !

(11) LAW & POLICY WORK GROUP REPORT – Jennifer, Lonnie

- a) The SSC Law & Policy Work Group brainstormed possible **Washington State legislative agendas** earlier this year. Co-Chairs Jennifer Allen and Lonnie Johns-Brown have had conversations with Robert Harkins of OSPI and Rep. Marko Liias about those issues. Mr. Harkins and Rep. Liias are in the process of meeting with one another to discuss what OSPI and Rep. Liias could both support. Lonnie says, “[We] expect a good product and hopefully one we can start sharing by the end of committee assembly days, December 3rd and 4th.”
- b) Beth reported having forwarded some excellent **gender expression/identity policies** from the San Francisco and Los Angeles Unified School Districts that Tara Borelli of Lambda Legal passed to us, to Lisa Love at Seattle Public Schools to find out if Lisa’s office might be willing to propose something like them in Seattle. Beth will keep us posted. A number of people offered to help get school employees and students to turn out for school board meetings in support of such policies if they are put forward.

(12) WELCOMING SCHOOLS PROJECT – Beth

- a) We are partnering with Human Rights Campaign to provide teacher training in the Pacific NW. Trainers: Beth Reis (of Public Health – Seattle & King County) and Willa Marth (of Planned Parenthood of the Great NW). HRC is paying to fly them to Washington, DC (and others from around the country) for a December 5-6 training-of-trainers.

(13) QUEER YOUTH SPACE IN SEATTLE

- a) Kyle Rapinan is starting a community service project to create new and effective queer youth space in Seattle. **If you would like to help out, have any ideas at all, shoot him an email at kyle.rapinan@gmail.com**

(14) SHOWING/DISCUSSION OF THE FILM “PUT THIS ON THE {MAP}” – Megan, Sid, Brandon

- a) *Put This on the {Map}* is as much a **youth development project** as a **film**. It is also a **web site www.putthisonthemap.org** and a **model for youth organizing**. It is a VERY, very cool representation of youths’ own voices for use in training school employees and other adults who serve youth as well as youth themselves. We heard a presentation about it. We viewed the film.
- b) **We HIGHLY recommend contacting the producers to arrange a showing or training: contact producers@putthisonthemap.org**

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.

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

Jan 19th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Stefanie facilitates and Paul records(?). Stefanie: 206-263-8936; Stefanie.fox@kingcounty.gov

Feb 16th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Frieda facilitates Heather C. records. Frieda: questions@safeschoolscoalition.org