



Minutes 12-16-08, 3-5 p.m. PST
Safe Schools Coalition Meeting
Chairing: Beth Reis; Recording: Matt Munson
HELP NEEDED REQUESTS are in RED.

ATTENDING IN PERSON: Hanna **King**, Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Streets, Empowerment Project and Garfield High School GSA; Helen **Stillman**, Lambert House and Safe Schools Coalition Speakers' Bureau Manager; Beth **Reis**, Public Health – Seattle & King County and Safe Schools Coalition Co-Chair; Stefanie **Fox**, King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division; Kyle **Rapinan**, Casey Family Programs; Matt **Munson**, Planned Parenthood of Western Washington; Riana **Hensel**, Puget Sound Community School; Jason **Plourde**, Three Dollar Bill Cinema; Rolfe **Berge**; Renee **Jones**, The Teenline.org; Arnold **Martin**, Seattle Counseling Service, Heather **Carter**, Youth Suicide Prevention Program

ATTENDING BY PHONE: Frieda **Takamura**, Washington Education Association; Gabi **Clayton**, PFLAG Olympia, Families United Against Hate, Youth Guardian Services, and Safe Schools Coalition Webspinner; Tara **Borelli**, Lambda Legal; Heather **Murphy**, school psychologist, Affiliate Faculty, Dept. of Educational Psychology, University of Washington and SSC Intervention Specialist; Lonnie **Johns-Brown**, National Organization of Women, League of Women Voters, Lobbyist; Jeff **Söder**; OSPI; Ryan **Schwartz**, GroundSpark

INTROS ... welcome new faces/voices

(1) HRC's MEMBERSHIP – Frank

BACKGROUND: Last February, we temporarily suspended HRC's membership in the Coalition after HRC did not oppose the version of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) that excluded gender identity. In September, we discussed the efforts HRC has been making since that time, re: trans issues: All of HRC's Family Project programs, Welcoming Schools, All Children—All Families, and the Healthcare Equality Index, are explicitly trans-inclusive. Other projects at the HRC Foundation (Religion and Faith, Workplace Project, Center for the Study of Equality, Coming Out Project, and Youth Initiative) are also very committed to and passionate about trans inclusion, and always have been. The field department, legal department, and legislative/lobbyist team worked very hard in Montgomery County, MD where an appeal was recently thrown out that intended to strip gender identity protections from a public accommodations bill. Not only did HRC have a bunch of people on the ground, but they also raised \$25,000 for the effort. In September the Coalition decided to participate in HRC's Welcoming Schools pilot program if we are able to identify schools in King County wanting to participate. Frieda Takamura suggested including a school in Spokane as well. Frank agreed in September to discuss the situation with Allison Herwitz, HRC's Legislative Director, to determine HRC's intention should ENDA be introduced again. And we agreed to revisit HRC's membership depending upon that conversation. In light of Frank Couch's absence today, the issue of HRC's membership in the Coalition was tabled until January.

(2) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Beth

- a) New member applications: **Teen Talking Circles** <http://www.teentalkingcircles.org> (also see <http://www.youtube.com/teentalkingcircles>) and **Equality New Mexico** www.eqnm.org
Membership into Safe Schools Coalition unanimously approved. Welcome!
- b) Renewed recently for 2009: **Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition** and **Camp Ten Trees**. Thank you both!!
- c) Membership team will be meeting this Thursday, 3 pm.
- d) **Please, if you represent a member org or an org that should be a member of the Safe Schools Coalition**, save us having to contact you to remind you to renew or join. **Renew or join for 2009 online right now:** <https://anauel.youth-guard.org/safeschools/member-org.asp> (Don't worry -- you don't need your agency's credit card – you can ask, right on the form, to have an invoice sent to you!)

(3) LAW & POLICY WORK GROUP – Marsha, Beth

a) WASHINGTON STATE

- Conversations with OSPI
- Conversations with legislators
 - ♦ Details will follow within the next few weeks

b) UNITED STATES

- **ACTION ITEMS!!** See PFLAG's explanations of the **Amendment to the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act** (<http://community.pflag.org/Page.aspx?pid=1013>) and the **Responsible Education About Life (REAL) Act** (<http://community.pflag.org/Page.aspx?pid=1014>) and what you can do if you support PFLAG's positions.
- **Youth can become sex ed activists** via the Answer (formerly called Sex Etc.) web site: <http://sexetc.org/yourvoice> "Complete your personal profile and tell us what you think teens really need to know about their sexual health!"

(4) SPEAKERS BUREAU & TRAINING TEAM REPORT – Helen

a) Recent training/speaking engagements

Date:	Location:	Trainers:	Audience Total:
12/3	Tacoma Public Schools	Beth Reis	
12/4	Skagit/Whatcom Training of Trainers	Beth Reis, Helen Stillman	12
12/10	Pasco ESD 123	Helen Stillman	25
12/12	Woodinville UU youth program	Nathan Shara	8

b) Recent Tabling (outreach)

Date:	Location:	
12/5	Voices Rising	Helen, Joyful

c) Upcoming American Friends Service Committee LGBTQ Youth Panels

Date:	Location:	Audience Total:
11/19	Ingraham HS	15
11/19	Ingraham HS	15
12/12	Lincoln HS	4 panels

Note: The panels at Lincoln HS were held in three Spanish language classes and one heritage class. Panelists told their stories in Spanish and English.

Also upcoming: Gender panel at Arts & Academics Academy, Roosevelt HS, Teen Link

d) Other Projects

- ~ **Speaker Training**
Rescheduled (tentatively) for Monday, January 12, 6-8:30 pm at ERW
Contact Helen if you want to attend or for more info: Helen@safeschoolscoalition.org .
- ~ Washington State Bullying Prevention Conference organizing
- ~ White Privilege Conference (April 1-4, Memphis, TN)

Reminder: Please contact Helen if you would like new speakers bureau brochures sent to your school or organization. Helen@safeschoolscoalition.org

To arrange a speaker/trainer, anywhere in the world, or a table about Safe Schools Coalition and its member organizations for your conference or fair, contact Helen: Helen@safeschoolscoalition.org

(5) SPECIAL EVENTS

- a) NW Premiere of ***Straightlaced - How Gender's Got Us All Tied Up***. The Raynier Foundation has given \$5,000 to GroundSpark, to collaborate with us.

Straightlaced is the final film of the Respect for All series. Filmed in the same intimate style as *That's a Family!* and *Let's Get Real*, the heart of *Straightlaced* is candid interviews with more than 50 teens from diverse backgrounds. There is no disputing the fact that gender-based stereotypes and anti-gay attitudes affect the lives of all students today. The pressure to conform to conventional expectations about gender is strongly tied to anti-gay attitudes the girls who won't play sports because they don't want to be called "lezzies"; the boys who make crude comments about girls' bodies just to prove to their peers that they aren't gay; the students who won't raise their hands in class because it's gay to be smart. *Straightlaced* provides a way into a much-needed dialogue about gender roles and homophobia among teenagers. With refreshing honesty, the diverse youth in the film open up about the pressure to conform to rigid gender role expectations. Boys who have to act tough even though they may feel vulnerable, or girls who have to dress provocatively just to fit in, reveal the toll it takes on them to live up to gender role expectations and how that limits who they really want to be.

A committee formed to work out logistics of premiering *Straightlaced* in Seattle. The committee will be convened, at least initially, by Rianna Hensel and members are Jason Plourde, Matt Munson, Rolfe Berge, Arnold Martin, Helen Stillman, Stefanie Fox, Kyle Rapanan, Hannah King, and Ryan Schwartz. The committee will work for a date in the spring, but 4/1-4/4 and 4/8-4/9 are not good dates.

- b) **Laugh OUT Loud** – Nonprofit Comedy has offered us another comedy night. **Save the date: June 23rd**

This is a youth friendly event and will be held near Pride in June. A committee needs to be formed to make this event successful. Some people who helped in the past are willing to step up and help again, but there needs to be people willing to help hang posters to publicize the event. This will be talked about at a future meeting as the date approaches. There was some question about whether or not Comedy Underground will be in existence in June, but all indications is that they will be operating normally. The cost is not yet determined and that will be tabled until January.

(6) FISCAL UPDATE – Beth, Daniel

Thanks to Daniel Moore for sending out thank you letters!

- a) **Huge thanks to these recent donors:**

- Pam Jensen
- Steve Orner
- Val Murdock
- Roberta Adams
- Norm Walker
- Catherine Ahl
- Raynier Institute and Foundation
- Pride Foundation
- Herban Feast Catering

- b) **And in memory of Jerry Painter:**

- Faith Hanna
- Frieda Takamura
- Leslie Homer
- Edmonds Education Association
- Washington Council of School Attorneys
- Committee for Children

- c) **Daniel sent beautiful thank you letters to 2008 donors!**

- d) **Make a tax deductible donation right now.** No organization spends your dollars more carefully ... almost none go for overhead and administration (those things are mostly donated in-kind).

Your dollars go to programs! Go to: <https://anauel.youth-guard.org/safeschools/donate.asp>

(7) WEB SITE REPORT – Gabi

- a) **MySpace page:** Kyle has volunteered to help Arnold maintain it. Thank you both. **The MySpace page will serve as a gateway to the SSC website. Beth suggested that it link directly to the youth page of the SSC site.**

- b) Gabi Clayton has set up a Safe Schools Coalition group on **LinkedIn**. **LinkedIn** is an online professional networking tool. It is free to sign up - they do offer a paid membership also which is expensive, and I don't think is necessary.) See more information and join at <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1110307> Gabi also set up a Safe Schools Coalition group on **Facebook**. **Facebook** is a free online social and general networking tool. See more information and join at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=43732067796> Both the groups are for people who work for or volunteer with Safe Schools Coalition, for or with organizations that are members of the Coalition, and for our allies, supporters, and friends. To join these groups you need to be approved by Gabi or other group moderators. (Let Gabi know if you are interested in helping manage the groups.) You'll need to be a member of **LinkedIn** or **Facebook** to join these groups. For general information and to sign up, see LinkedIn <http://www.linkedin.com/> and Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/>
- c) **Report on ten years** of web site data. (see **end** of minutes)

(8) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT –

Beth shared that a Memphis-area planning committee, in preparation for the White Privilege Conference that will be held in Memphis in April, has agreed to encourage students, families and educators to send us their stories. **Send your stories of incidents:**

- of bias-based bullying, harassment or assault (verbal or physical violence based on real or perceived race/ethnicity, religion, country of origin, socio-economic status, abilities/disabilities, gender, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation)
- that occur(red) between January 1, 1999 and February 28, 2009
- in an elementary, middle and high school or on the way to or from school or at a school-sponsored event
- in TN, KY, NC, SC, GA, AL, MS, AK or MO.

Send them to beth@safeschoolscoalition.org with “TN (or whatever nearby state) incident” in the subject line. **Deadline for reports we can use: March 1, 2009.**

The Memphis-area committee has agreed to assemble a list of local resources to be shared with people who report harassment or assault and need support. Unfortunately offering referrals is not the ideal intervention. We would rather offer something more substantial, as we do in Washington, but it is the best we can offer from a distance without local staff in Tennessee.

(9) SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION – IDAHO – Beth

Minutes from a recent Idaho chapter meeting were shared. Congratulations Idaho on your numerous projects.

(10) 2009 OUR FAMILIES CALENDAR – Beth

This lovely tool from the Lesbian & Gay Child Care Task Force offers schools and day care centers a way to show very concretely that you welcome the children with LGBTQ parents/guardians into your learning community. Every teacher, school counselor or social worker, librarian and nurse should have it hanging prominently!! It only costs \$10. Get one today as a holiday gift to every school employee in your life. SSC is proud to host the order form on our web site. Go to:

http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/ocof/OFOC_CalendarOrderForm2009.pdf

(11) LISTSERVE REPORT – Beth

a) Welcome to recent subscribers from:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ▪ <i>Vineland, NJ</i> | ▪ <i>Glendale, AZ</i> | ▪ <i>Mount Vernon, WA</i> |
| ▪ <i>Oakland, CA</i> | ▪ <i>North Miami Beach, FL</i> | ▪ <i>Tacoma, WA</i> |
| ▪ <i>Indianapolis, IN</i> | ▪ <i>Minneapolis, MN</i> | ▪ <i>Rolling Bay, WA</i> |
| ▪ <i>Los Angeles, CA</i> | | ▪ <i>Seattle, WA (5)</i> |

- b) We now have **903 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.
- c) In Canada, the **5 Provinces** we serve include at least Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec.
- d) In the U.S., we serve people in at least **44 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, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY) plus Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico.
- e) Within Washington State, we serve at least **27 counties**: Benton, Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Ferry, Franklin, Grant, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whatcom, Whitman and Yakima.
- f) **There are two ways to subscribe.** Signing up for "IMPORTANT NEWS" gets you an average of 1-2 messages a week, mostly action items, meeting minutes and major announcements. Signing up for "NEWS" gets you those messages plus news, opinion, events and job digests totaling an average of 2 messages a day. Not subscribed? Need to change the address we send to or to switch lists? Go to: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/listsub.asp>

(12) HEALTHY YOUTH ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP -- Beth

Healthy Youth Alliance (HYA) is a coalition of individuals, organizations and agencies working to increase the number of youth in Washington communities who are exposed to researched, proven and effective sexual health programs. The Alliance ultimately aims to contribute to reduced rates of unintended pregnancy and STD/HIV infection in youth each year. The HYA helps legislators, school officials, and community members to implement effective, researched sexual health programs in local school districts. HYA offers teachers and school administrators training and resources that ensure students receive accurate, research-based sexual health information.

After brief discussion, it was decided that SSC will join the alliance. Beth agreed to do the paperwork.

(13) ANTI-RACISM WORK GROUP REPORT – Joy and Helen

- 2. Next steps: Joy MacTavish has agreed to co-chair the anti-racism committee. Thanks Joy! First meeting Thursday, December 18th, 6-8pm at Kaladi Brothers Coffee, 511 East Pike St., Seattle. Please come!
- 3. National Safe Schools Roundtable's (NSSR's) draft Statement of Anti-Racist Framework

Background- NSSR is a network of agencies that are doing LGBT safe schools work. They/we are working on a resource database that will be open only to member organizations and funders that will be extremely helpful in communication and collaboration among like-minded agencies and helping funders to understand the breadth of local and national efforts. In you are interested in going to the next roundtable meeting and representing SSC (in Washington DC in Fall '09), please contact Beth at Beth@safeschoolscoalition.org

The draft Framework was shared at the meeting. Those who want to recommend edits, or if you weren't at the meeting and you represent a member organization and are interested in helping to edit it, please e-mail Helen at Helen@safeschoolscoalition.org

(14) SEATTLE MAJESTICS

The professional women's tackle football team is interested in partnering in some way with SSC. Discussion tabled until January.

(15) SEATTLE GAY NEWS AD

Discussion re: whether or not to place an ad in the Seattle Gay News, at their recent request. It was decided that SSC will not buy ad space now, but will when *Straightlaced* is premiered. Kyle Rapinan will ask if the SGN would be willing to donate ad space now, understanding that we'll purchase ad space for the event when it approaches.

(16) CHANGE IN SSC LEADERSHIP! – Transition Team

The Coalition's new co-chairs (some time during 2009) will be Stefanie Fox, Kyle Rapinan, and Heather Murphy. The transition team meeting has been rescheduled due to inclement weather.

(17) PSKS EVENT “WARM FOR THE WINTER”

Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Streets is having a fundraiser on Friday, December 19th. It's the 1st concert of their own production company - Bus Line Sleepers - made up of homeless and street involved youth. Proceeds will go to purchase sleeping bags, blankets, and other warm items for use by homeless youth this winter. **If you are not able to make this event, please consider donating new or gently used clothing, backpacks, and sleeping bags to PSKS. Drop stuff at PSKS, 1814 Summit Ave, Seattle or donate online here: <http://www.psk.org/support.html>.** More info about PSKS: www.PSKS.org. More info about Warm for the Winter or to donate: garth@psks.org or 206-697-1314.

(18) UPDATING THE 83,000 YOUTH REPORT

Safe Schools Coalition will be working with an intern from The Evergreen State College for the 10 week 2008-9 Winter Quarter. She is a student in the "Gender and Sexuality: History, Culture, and Politics" class. See <http://acdrupal.evergreen.edu/gensex/>. She will be helping us begin the work on an updated version of our quantitative research report, **83,000 Youth: Selected Findings of Eight Population-Based Studies** which is online at <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/83000youth.pdf>. Dr. Heather Murphy and Gabi Clayton will be supervising her. **Action: Can your member organization step up to help with the printing cost about a year from now? If so, contact Heather: heatheremurphy@gmail.com**

(19) EXODUS INTERNATIONAL

Exodus has released its goals for next year. They are presented here so we can all be aware of the tactics that are used against us and our movement.

- “1. Mobilizing pastors, churches and Christians to actively reach out to individuals and families affected by homosexuality*
- 2. Reaching parents of younger children who might not know how to help their gender confused youngster with real help and solutions to ensure that their kids become the men and women that god created them to be*
- 3. Saving marriages where homosexuality has threatened to rip fathers from their children, husbands from their wives, and to destroy homes*
- 4. Building communities of compassion and helping ensure that those who are lost and hurting have places to go for help, hope, and healing.”*

(20) TREVOR PROJECT

Action Item - Kyle shared that the Trevor Project, a suicide and crisis prevention hotline for LGBTQ youth, is seeking youth for a youth advisory panel. If you're interested in joining, you'll find more info at www.thetrevorproject.org

(21) SEEKING ALLIES TO SERVE ON A PANEL FOR SEATTLE GIRLS' SCHOOL

Action Item- Stefanie Fox needs community folks to help be a facilitator or panelist for a training about allyship at the Seattle Girls School. Young folks are encouraged to do this. There will be a pre-planning day on 1/20/08, and if you're interested e-mail Stefanie at stefanie.fox@kingcounty.gov



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.

Jan 20th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Frieda chairs and Daniel records
Frieda: 253-765-7062; hisakodau@aol.com

Feb 17th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Beth chairs and Heather records
Beth: 206-296-4970; beth.reis@kingcounty.gov

March 17th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Marsha chairs and Matt records
Marsha: 206-601-8942; mbotzer@botzerconsulting.com



A Decade Comparison Of Website Statistics November 1998 and November 2008 From Web Spinner, Gabi Clayton

The group that eventually became the Safe Schools Coalition began meeting twenty years ago, in 1988. In 1993 we began to call it the “Safe Schools Coalition.” As others began launching chapters and freestanding local coalitions, we changed the name to “The Safe Schools Coalition of Washington” to distinguish it. The website went online in 1997 courtesy of then-volunteer, Gabi Clayton, who is now a contractor. In November 1998, exactly a decade ago, we began to be able to collect statistics on the site’s usage. In 2001, in recognition of our growth as a national and international resource, we reclaimed our original name: “Safe Schools Coalition”.

Here, we compare the reach of the web site in November 1998 and November 2008:

	Nov. 1998	Nov. 2008
Total Number of Pages Viewed	34	52,307
Total Number of Hits	68	214,746
Total Bytes Downloaded	14,186 Bytes	5,970,004,541.44 Bytes (5.56 Gigabytes)
Average Visits Per Day	1.7	884
Total Number of Visitors	15	26,544

In November 1998 we had visitors from 3 countries: United States, United Kingdom, and Belgium.

In November 2008 we had visitors from 113 countries and territories (in order of number of users):

- United States,
- China,
- France,
- Canada,
- United Kingdom,
- Sweden,
- Switzerland,
- Germany,
- India,
- Australia,
- Russian Federation,
- Norway,
- Ireland,
- Japan,
- Brazil,
- Israel,
- Poland,
- Hong Kong,
- Netherlands,
- Romania,
- South Africa,
- Spain,
- Mexico,
- Philippines,
- Turkey,
- Italy,
- Republic of Korea,
- Portugal,
- Singapore,
- Indonesia,
- Malaysia,
- Belgium,
- Taiwan,
- New Zealand,
- Thailand,
- Czech Republic,
- Austria,
- United Arab Emirates,
- Puerto Rico,
- Hungary,
- Argentina,
- Finland,
- Kazakhstan,
- Saudi Arabia,
- Pakistan,
- Ghana,
- Ukraine,
- Cote d'Ivoire,
- Denmark,
- Moldova,
- Chile,
- Croatia,
- Greece,
- Colombia,
- Egypt,
- Vietnam,
- Iran,
- Slovakia,
- Bulgaria,
- Panama,
- Zimbabwe,
- Lithuania,
- Dominican Republic,
- Ethiopia,
- Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Slovenia,
- Jordan,
- Luxembourg,
- Bahrain,
- Nigeria,
- Yemen,
- Venezuela,
- Rwanda,
- Jamaica,
- Iceland,
- Benin,
- Lebanon,
- Estonia,
- Serbia and Montenegro,
- Bahamas,
- Guam,
- Maldives,
- Zambia,
- Trinidad and Tobago,
- Belize,
- Armenia,
- Syria,
- Tunisia,
- Cameroon,
- Bangladesh,
- Brunei Darussalam,
- Uruguay,
- Barbados,
- Angola,
- American Samoa,
- Bolivia,
- El Salvador,
- Malta,
- Oman,
- Macedonia,
- Peru,
- Mozambique,
- Namibia,
- Nepal,
- Malawi,
- Ecuador,
- Federal States of Micronesia,
- Costa Rica,
- Cuba,
- Palestinian Territory,
- Latvia,
- Guatemala,
- Paraguay.