

Beeville ISD
School Health Advisory Council Meeting
Thursday, October 2, 2014
Minutes

The first SHAC meeting for the 2014-15 school year was held Thursday, October 2, 2014 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Those in attendance were Adriana McKinnon and Julie Burnet of Women's Shelter of South Texas, Janine Zander parent, Jeff Atkinson Food Service Director, Marlo Martin RN Methodist Healthcare Ministries, Becky Williams community member, Reva Salazar MJHS student, Gina Martinez parent and Co-chair, and Cindy Clendennen Co-chair.

Items on the agenda included:

School Wellness Policy Guidance

The SHAC reviewed and discussed information related to the implementation of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 which influenced meal standards that took effect in 2012. The Act has been revised which includes the addition of federal Smart Snacks rules and additional state standards related to competitive foods. The Act also addresses school district wellness policies, with the intent of strengthening those policies. These revisions will provide guidance on areas that affect the school nutrition program and environment.

Although the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released proposed federal regulations in February 2014 for the portion of the Act that addresses the Wellness Policy, there has not been a scheduled release date for final regulations. The Act and subsequent regulations make clear that each district will need to revise its Wellness Policy, FFA (Local) and corresponding Wellness Plans; however, until the federal regulations and requirements are final, districts are advised to begin to prepare for the requirements of the Act by considering the following:

- The Act requires that development and implementation of the Wellness Policy include representatives from parents, students, school administration, the school food authority, PE teachers, school health professionals, and members of the public. The SHAC will have a large role in development and implementation of the Wellness Policy.
- The Act requires that each district designate and authorize at least one district employee to facilitate updating the Wellness Policy and monitor implementation in order to ensure district and campus compliance with the Wellness Policy and Wellness Plan.
- Although new provisions will be needed, the previous requirements for the Wellness Policy remain. The SHAC should review the goals established in the Wellness Policy FFA (Local) to determine goals have been adequately addressed in the Local Wellness Plan.
- The Act requires more notice to parents and the community regarding the district's wellness activities. It is advisable to consider methods to be used to communicate and provide information more effectively.

Additionally, new rules, effective September 1, 2014 from the TDA, place restrictions on the time and place for the sale and consumption of competitive foods. These restrictions reflect the previous standards found in the now-repealed Texas Public School Nutrition Policy; however, new TDA rules

give local school boards the option to revise their Wellness Policies to adopt alternative standards. More guidance in this area will be provided as final regulations are announced.

The Beeville ISD SHAC will, upon guidance, offer recommendations to update the district Wellness Policy and subsequently, the Wellness Plan as final regulations are announced.

Without further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:10 pm.

Future meetings include November 6th, February 5th, and April 2nd.

Submitted by Cindy Clendennen, Co-chair