



DECEMBER 4, 2024

Southwest
Independent School District

School Health Advisory Council
Recommendation

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BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 1, 74th Legislature, Regular Session, 1995, amended Chapter 28 of the Texas Education Code (TEC) by adding Section 28.004. This section requires the establishment of a local school health education advisory council (SHAC). A SHAC is a volunteer advisory council to the school district Board of Trustees. A SHAC is composed of majority parents, community leaders, school personnel, and other representatives, as needed. Under TEC Section 28.004, the SHAC's duties include recommending policies, procedures, curriculum, and strategies for health education appropriate for specific grade levels. SHACs can provide invaluable advice to the district on methods to advance student academic performance by promoting, practicing, and coordinating school health education and services. If utilized, SHAC contributions to coordinated school health programming can lead to a greater positive impact on student health and learning.

ADDITION TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING CURRICULUM

Following the passage of TAC § 61.1051, Subchapter EE the SHAC evaluated the newest addition of Ransomed Life Human Trafficking curriculum, Mouse Traps, for grades 3rd to 5th. Voting committee members voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Trustees the following:

- The Ransom Life Mouse Traps Presentation to be delivered live during a student Assembly.
- Should be rolled out to students grades 3rd to 5th.
- The parents are to be provided with the option to Opt-In, as this curriculum falls under Human Sexuality education. A flyer should be sent home to parents for this purpose.
- Flyer should include a district contact that the parent can reach out to obtain a link to a video presentation so that they can make an informed decision.

Southwest ISD has an existing partnership with Ransomed Life. We currently use their Lures and Lies program for Middle School and High School. As a reminder, this organization does not charge to deliver the presentation, they ask for a donation.

Mouse Traps is an interactive presentation including questions and videos. Teaches internet safety, how to identify red flags (with those attempting to communicate with the child through games and apps), reinforces talking with a trusted adult (that makes you feel safe and never makes you feel yucky), learning how to say NO (approaches it as a super power) when a situation is not right, and understanding the difference between a surprise and a secret. The presentation uses age appropriate language and activities.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) amended its child abuse prevention, mandatory reporting, and training requirements to include human trafficking in alignment with updates to state law concerning the definition of child abuse and neglect (TAC § 61.1051, Subchapter EE, Commissioner's Rules on Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect, including Trafficking of a Child).

[*https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence/taa-letters/human-trafficking-prevention-month](https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence/taa-letters/human-trafficking-prevention-month)

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence/taa-letters/human-trafficking-prevention-month>

* to request access to an on demand video visit <https://www.ransomedlifetexas.org/lures>