

## LVISD School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Annual Report for 2024 2025

### **Authority and purposes for the SHAC:**

Each school district in Texas is required under Chapter 28.004 (a-c) of the Texas Education Code to establish and maintain a district-level School Health Advisory Council. The School Health Advisory Council of the La Vega` Independent School District is specifically authorized by the Board of Trustees in District policies BDF (Legal), EHAA (Legal), EHAB (Legal), EFAA (Legal), and FFA (Local).

The purpose of the SHAC is to assist the District in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the District's health education instruction. The SHAC is an opportunity for parents and community members to partner with schools to provide recommendations to the School Board to mitigate the issues facing our students.

The council's duties include recommending:

1. The number of hours of instruction to be provided in health education;
2. Curriculum appropriate for specific grade levels designed to prevent tobacco use, unhealthy eating, inadequate physical activity, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behaviors that may result in HIV infection or other STD, and violence;
3. Appropriate grade levels and methods for human sexuality instruction; and
4. Strategies for integrating the curriculum components specified above, with the following elements in a coordinated school health program: school health services, counseling and guidance services, a safe and healthy school environment, and school employee wellness.

SHACs assist the districts in ensuring that local community values are reflected in health education instruction. Additionally, SHACs play an important role in strengthening the connection between health and learning. They can help parents and community stakeholders reinforce the knowledge and skills children need to stay healthy for a lifetime.

***"If schools do not deal with children's health by design, they deal with it by default."***

(Health is Academic, 1997)

The State Board of Education gave final approval on November 20, 2020 to the new health education TEKS. They will be effective August 1, 2022 to be implemented with the 2022-2023 school year. No later than July 31, 2021, the commissioner of education shall determine whether instructional materials funding has been made available to Texas public schools to purchase materials to cover the newly adopted health education TEKS. If the funding is available, schools will begin implementation in the 2022-2023 school year. If funding has not been made available, the commissioner will determine no later than July 31 of each subsequent year. The new TEKS will be implemented the following year after notification.

### **Accomplishments and Activities during 2024-2025:**

- Discussed the Role of SHAC with new members.

- Reviewed the Federal Programs Budget Guidelines. Dr. Johnson discussed parental involvement.
- Reviewed the Parent Engagement Policy.
- Shared information about the Stronger Connections Grant regarding reset rooms and restorative practices.
- Shared student services activities that are planned for the fall including Big Decisions. Last year it was an opt-in program; this year it is opt-in, with the main goals of decreasing teen pregnancy and STIs and increasing student participation in the program.
- Reviewed the Family Engagement goals in the District Improvement Plan.
- Reviewed and made minor revisions to the District's Wellness Policy.
- Provided opportunity for parents to ask questions and offer feedback on Big Decisions and Healthy Relationships programs.
- Shared evening workshop opportunities with parents and received feedback on future offerings.
- Shared information about summer feeding programs.

The SHAC has met four times this school year. The dates were September 14, 2024; November 14, 2025; February 6, 2025; and March 19, 2025. The minutes are posted on the District website under required postings. <https://www.lavegaisd.org/about/required-postings>