

SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION MEETING MINUTES

Tues, Jan. 18, 2011, 3-5 p.m.

Chair: Frieda Takamura Recorder: Penny Palmer

1. Attending: Frieda Takamura, SSC Co-Chair; Penny Palmer, Intervention Specialist Coordinator and co- sec. SSC; Brianna Herman-Brand, Speakers Bureau Coordinator; Arthur Padilla, Executive Director Rosehedge; Cory Hines, Rosehedge Office Manager
Call in: Gabi Clayton, SSC web spinner

2. Fiscal Agent update and Treasurer's Report – Michelle and Leadership Team Starting 1/19/2011:

Snail mail address – Safe Schools c/o Rosehedge, 115 16th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122

Donations, publications by credit card – Card will show “RH Home Care” instead of “Lifelong AIDS Alliance.”

Questions about finances – Contact Treasurer, Michelle Munro

(michelle@safeschoolscoalition.org) or Co-Chair, Beth Reis (206.296.4970 or 800.325.6165, ext. 64970) or Rosehedge Office Manager, Corrie Hines (corrie@multifaith.org; 206.324.1520, ext. 224)

Gabi is working on making changes on the website and to SSC documents. The addresses of snail mail going to Beth's office, Lifelong and American Friends Service Committee have been forwarded to the new address at Rosehedge. This will keep all snail mail in one place. Rosehedge will scan and send all important information to SSC as it arrives.

3. Law & Policy Work Group

HB 3026 – Update. The SSC response to the new regulations/WACS is being finalized. Gabi will print and send the letter when next week. We are reacting to the many changes and push backs from the original document. School districts seem to be afraid of lawsuits. In reality, if the regulations were followed, there wouldn't be law suits. We are very concerned the current proposal from the districts and state will not protect kids and will be difficult to enforce. For more info, contact Jennifer. Allen@ppvotewa.org or Jmullins00@gmail.com

Gangs in Schools – Our concern is the laws proposed are punitive and do not deal with prevention.

School districts blocking LGBT specific sites – It has come to our attention that some school districts are blocking LGBT websites which means student can not access them at school. For students without computer access elsewhere or needing help immediately this makes it difficult to get information.

4. Peer Education Project and LGBT youth work in Skagit County – This will be re-scheduled. Colleen Conner, Prevention & Education Coordinator, Skagit County Svcs. Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault will make a presentation.

5. Intervention Team Report

This month we had 12 calls come in through the KCSARC crisis line.

We also had 4 calls from out of state:

- a. Louisiana – A school employee of a student coming out as gay requested help.
- b. Texas – We had a request for a book list on LGBT issues.
- c. Virginia – 12 girls bullying other high school girls. Parent requested suggestions on how to get the school more accountable and put more effort into stopping the bullying. Her daughter was beginning to show signs of the stress to include lower grades and depression.
- d. Minnesota – A request for information on stopping cyber bullying

In state cases:

- a. 16 yr. old tried to commit suicide due to bullying and was waiting in a mental health facility until a safe school environment could be assured. We worked with OEO on this one and they were a great help with the legal ramifications.
- b. A middle school child was expelled from a religious private school for fighting. The child was reacting to bullying which had been reported to the principal. We are working to get all the documentation so charges can be disputed. The student is now enrolled in the local school and is getting counseling. This is an on-going case.

6. Speakers Bureau Report – Briana

Thanks to the efforts of both Briana and Gabi, we launched a **whole new Speakers Bureau page:**

<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/speakersbureau/index.htm>

Seattle Foundation donation - \$3000 for Speakers Bureau

Trainers needed: Bush School training for parents on “GLBTQ/Sexual Orientation 101,” Feb. 7, 8:45 – 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 – 8:15 p.m.

Speakers Bureau & Training Team

Date:	Location:	Trainers:	Audience Total:
1/17	GLSEN GSA Summit	Tracy	

Upcoming: Overlake High School MLK Assembly 1/24

Cedar Heights Middle School 2/2

Bush School Parent Workshops (2) 2/7

Outreach

Date:	Location:	Tablers:
1/15	WWU MLK Day event	Lorraine Kasprisin

Upcoming: Shoreline Family Connection Event 1/20

Community Summit in Spokane (teleconference) 1/22

Woodinville Unitarian Church 1/30

7. Web Site Report – Gabi

We have new listserv subscribers, since our last meeting, from:

North Brunswick, NJ; Fort Lauderdale, FL; Hartford, CT; Gig Harbor, WA; Chicago, IL; Seattle, WA (11); Washington, DC; Goleta, CA; Toronto, ON, Canada; Olympia, WA; Marquette, MI; Phoenix, AZ (2); Spanaway, WA; Providence, RI; El Cerrito, CA; Hamden, CT; Denver, CO; San Diego, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Sequim, WA; Bellingham, WA; East Lansing, MI; Vancouver, WA; Coppell, TX; Auburn, WA; Detroit, MI; Oregon, WI; Clinton, NY; Omaha, NE; Fremont, NE; Okemos, MI

We had **web visitors** in Dec, 2010 from 107 countries (e.g., Algeria, Ghana, Cocos Islands, Chile, Azerbaijan, Iceland, Cambodia) In Nov, 2010 from 111 countries (e.g., Georgia, Eritrea, Mongolia, Cote D'Ivoire, Kuwait, Nepal, Hungary)

December 2010 Website Statistics

Total Hits 226,006

Total Page Views 54,465

Total Visitors 31,890

Membership Report – Gabi

This week 685 people like our Facebook page. Today's total is 696 people.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Safe-Schools-Coalition/40410974396>

Gabi is looking for a volunteer to help manage our Facebook page. Contact her! gabi@safeschoolscoalition.org
Thank you to PFLAG Skagit County WA for renewing their membership for 2011 without being invoiced!
Gabi will be getting invoices out later this month or early February, but you don't have to wait - you can renew your organization's membership now. See:
http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members_join-renew.html

Interested in joining? See
<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members.htm>

8. SSC is benefactor of Delta Lambda Phi Inclement Sprint fundraiser. Thank you so much for your support.
9. Retroactive diplomas for bullied LGBTQ students – The question was brought to us about trying to get retroactive diplomas for students who were bullied in high school causing them to quit and/or not get a diploma. A student in this situation who has since gone on to be an attorney may request our help. One suggestion was to document the process to help other districts also offer this service.
10. OUTLoud - Heather C.
Alerted us to an event hosted by Jason Hunke to educate folks about YSPP. To support and RSVP go to www.yspp.org
11. Brianna will be representing the SSC on a webinar presented by the Spokane LGBT Center on Saturday. They are expecting over 200 participants who will get information on Pflag, SSC, domestic violence issues and community resources. Due to potential weather conditions, Brianna will testify via webcam. Carol Ehrhart, who is also an intervention specialist in Spokane along with her leadership role with the Center, also spoke with Sen. Cantwell last week to help identify LGBT issues in that area of the state.

Upcoming Meetings

Contact the chair if you have agenda items or need instructions about meeting logistics. Everyone is welcome and you do not need to be an SSC member to attend. Meetings are 3-5 p.m. at Planned Parenthood on Madison in Seattle

Feb. 15 – Chair is pending; Recorder: Frank

Mar. 15 – Chair, Frieda (ftakamura08@gmail.com); Recorder, Heather C.

Apr. 19 – Chair, Stefanie (stefaniefox@gmail.com); Recorder, Penny

May 17 – Chair, Heather M (hmurphy@u.washington.edu); Recorder, Frank