

**Safe Schools Coalition Meeting August 18, 2009**  
**Facilitating: Heather Murphy; Recording: Matt Munson**

**HELP NEEDED ITEMS ARE IN RED**

In attendance- **Frieda Takamura** - SSC Co-Chair; **Briana Herman-Brand** - SSC & American Friends Service Committee speakers' bureau (OUTSpoken) Manager; **Beth Reis** - Public Health – Seattle & King County and SSC Co-Chair; **Stefanie Fox** - SSC Co-Chair, Mental Health, Chemical Abuse & Dependency Services Division, King County; **Chris Johnson** - King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; **Kyle Rapinan** – SSC Co-Chair; **Matt Munson**, Planned Parenthood of the Great NW & SSC C-Secretary; **Heather Murphy**- SSC Co-Chair; **Tyler Bosma**, Powerful Voices; **Jill Van Glubt**, Washington Education Association; **Paul Christiansen**

On the Phone- **Gabi Clayton**-SSC Webspinner/Membership Chair/Trainer, Families United Against Hate (FUAH), Youth Guardian Services (YGS), and PFLAG-Olympia; **Brian Osborn**, Children's Home Society-Walla Walla and Triple Point

**INTROS ... welcome new faces/voices**

**(1) SSC LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**a) Sharing Time:**

**Jill**- Returning to SSC after an absence of many years. Will now become the WEA liaison to SSC

**Tyler**- also returning to SSC after an absence and looking forward to working with SSC again

**Kyle**- going to the Safe Schools Roundtable convening in Dallas and is looking forward to going. Also went to LA to speak to about coming out on behalf of Point Foundation

**Briana**- Getting oriented with the new role as Speaker's Bureau manager

**Chris**- Developing an internet safety program that focuses on LGBTQ populations, has partnered with Public Health – Seattle and King County to work in juvenile detention and is actively seeking endorsement through the WA Attorney Generals office

**Stefanie**- Working with a homeless youth advocacy project with the city of Seattle.

**Matt**- enjoying the last bit of summer before school starts back up.

**Beth**- excited about her 8 week road trip!

**Gabi**- Working with the membership committee for SSC, also the Olympia PFLAG chapter (which is a member org of SSC) has been selected as one of 5 chapters in the US to be part of a pilot project on diversity called PFLAG Tapestry.

**Brian**- Working to make the public high school in Walla Walla WA safer by getting a GSA set up and trying to arrange staff training

**(2) PAUL AGREED TO SERVE AS 3<sup>rd</sup> CO-SECRETARY!**

- a) Paul Christiansen has volunteered to be Co-Secretary thanks Paul!
- b) Beth is also gone for all of September and October. The September meeting will be chaired by Stefanie Fox and recorded by Heather Carter; the October meeting will be



**(6) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi**

- a) Thank you to those who've renewed this month: Diversity Productions, Lambert House and Friends of Project 10 Inc. You rock!
- b) Renewal letters went out on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Two membership organizations are not in existence now: Seattle LGBT Community Center - and Respect Sacramento. We can't find a current mailing address for our liaisons at St. Vrain Valley School District (Colorado) - emailed liaison but no answer yet. AFSC asked for invoice which I sent. Youth Suicide Prevention Program and Puget Sound Community School submitted new liaison contact information using the contact form.

**(7) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Beth for Penny**

- a) Not much to report this month. 2 inquiries from out of state and we're finishing up one in Spokane.
- b) Intervention reports will be more detailed in the future, as this is one way people are swayed to donate, volunteer, and utilize our services.
- c) There is also a list of Intervention Specialists available, and if someone needs that list, please contact Penny: [intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org](mailto:intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org). But the ways to reach an Intervention Specialist are still 1-877-SAFE-SAFE or that same email address ([intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org](mailto:intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org))
- d) Briana asked what the proper channel is if an intervention message is left on the general message line. If that happens, Penny should be contacted as soon as possible and there should be a "handoff".

**(8) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana**

**Speakers Bureau & Training Team**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Trainers:</b>	<b>Audience Total:</b>
7/22	Seattle University School of Education, Law and Ethics Class	Beth Reis	35
7/25	Odyssey Youth Conference, Spokane, WA	Tracy Flynn and John Brett	
7/27	NW Institute for Community Health Educators	Beth Reis	36
7/28	NW Institute for Community Health Educators	Beth Reis	36
7/30	NW Institute for Community Health Educators	Beth Reis	12

**Upcoming: Foster Care Conference 9/25-9/26**

**Tabling**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Tablers:</b>
8/14 – 8/15	Queer API Conference	Heather Carter, Rolfe Berge, John Brett, LT, Beth Reis

**Upcoming: Schools Out WA Event 8/27**  
**Health Families Forum 8/29**  
**Gender Odyssey Conference 9/5-9/7**  
**Links and Alliances Conference 11/14**

**American Friends Service Committee LGBTQ Youth Panels**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Audience Total:</b>
7/22	Casey Family Program	20
7/26	Mayoral Candidate Forum Q&A	
8/10	YMCA Youth Employment Program	

Beth reiterated how important it is to table events and how easy it is. Briana can provide a tub of materials and all that is required is be available at the event to answer questions about SSC. **Contact Briana at [Briana@safeschoolscoalition.org](mailto:Briana@safeschoolscoalition.org) if you're interested in tabling events.**

Human Rights Campaign will be training one or two Washingtonians in December who will, in turn, invite trainers to attend a Northwest Training of the Trainer for their new **Welcoming Schools** program in Winter or early Spring. Look for invites soon!

Thanks to Aimee Iverson, General Counsel at Washington Education Association, for giving legal eyes to Briana's contract...thanks for the consultation!

**(9) WALLA WALLA STRATEGIZING – Brian**

Brian from Children's Home Society in Walla Walla Wa asked SSC for help in establishing a GSA in the public high school in Walla Walla. There has been resistance within the high school (the student initiated GSA has gotten the run around and barriers have been set up to deter the students from starting a GSA). Children's Home Society is committed to making the high school safer for students and staff and has identified allies in the school, but needed ideas and support. SSC provided some strategies including:

- a) Use identified allies in school to help make the plans, that way the change is coming from within the community;
- b) (Students could) persuade parents/guardians to support the formation of a GSA as they can be powerful in school change efforts;
- c) Attend school board meetings to get the lay of the land, and to figure out who is friendly and who is not friendly to the cause;
- d) Investigate the anti-bullying and anti- harassment policies of the Walla Walla school district (probably available on their web site);
- e) Pull data off of the Healthy Youth Survey to support the need for a GSA and staff training at school. Go to [www.askhya.net](http://www.askhya.net) for county-specific stats
- f) Seek out allies in other places, such as community colleges and universities
- g) Use SSC Intervention Specialists (877-SAFE-SAFE or [intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org](mailto:intervention@safeschoolscoalition.org))
- h) Legal options include letters from Lambda Legal (contact Tara Borelli at their western region office (213-382-7600, ext. 231, [tborelli@lambdalegal.org](mailto:tborelli@lambdalegal.org)) and don't forget staff is protected by Educational Associations and Unions.

**(10) ENDORSEMENT DECISIONS – Eduardo, Beth**

- a) **Seattle OUT Protest** ([www.seattleoutprotest.org](http://www.seattleoutprotest.org)) ... planned events to coincide with the national march. Endorsement decision deferred until more detail about this event comes out. **Leadership team will make the decision whether to endorse in September.**

- b) **Our Families Count** Our Families Count is an entirely voluntary, online public education campaign intended to be launched in the fall of 2009, and formed collaboratively by leaders and community organizers across the LGBT and ally spectrum in America. A partnership Website, [www.ourfamiliescount.org](http://www.ourfamiliescount.org), is scheduled to be launched August 2009. It has only one mission: to educate and motivate all LGBT Americans and households to be visible in 2010, and to take part in the 2010 U.S. Census. This education campaign also reflects our deepening cooperation with the U.S. Census Bureau, which has actively sought our leadership in reaching out to many Americans who so often are overlooked and undercounted. They share our goal in achieving an accurate picture of our true numbers in the United States. **SSC endorses this campaign. Frieda will get in touch with OFC and provide SSC info.**

**(11) CONSULTING – Beth**

- a) Kyle provided consulting on a book Ron Hertel (Program Supervisor, Readiness to Learn, Mental Health, Foster Care at Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) is working on.
- b) Scenarios USA asked Beth for technical assistance with their gender questions on applications. Stefanie suggested that they use a fill in the blank for gender, that way people can self identify. **Beth will convey the suggestion.**

**(12) FISCAL REPORT**

- a) HUGE thank you to recent donors:
- Heather Carter
  - Beth Reis and Barbara Steele
  - Marsha Botzer
- b) **Beth will follow up with Lifelong re: donations and membership info.**
- c) You, too, can donate!! **Your donations keep this shoestring operation afloat.** We put every penny to remarkably good use:
- sending volunteers to provide training at conferences and in-service events,
  - traveling to school districts to meet with principals where intervention in harassment has reached crisis proportions,
  - keeping the content of the web site fresh and meaningful,
  - Empowering youth and educators to grab onto the media with both hands and use it for social change.

**Please donate right now, online: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/donate.html> !!!!**

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**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.

**Sept 15th**, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time [[back to school year schedule](#)]. Stefanie facilitates and Heather C. records. Stefanie: 206-263-8936; [Stefanie.fox@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Stefanie.fox@kingcounty.gov)

**Oct 20th**, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Kyle facilitates and Paul records. Kyle: 206-322-6711 ext 32190; [KRapinan@casey.org](mailto:KRapinan@casey.org)

**Nov 17th**, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Heather Murphy facilitates and Heather Carter records. Heather M.: 206-616-6361; [hmurphy@u.washington.edu](mailto:hmurphy@u.washington.edu)