

Minutes 7-21-09, 2-4 p.m. PST

Safe Schools Coalition Meeting

Facilitating: Beth Reis & Stefanie Fox; Recording: Kyle Rapinan

HELP NEEDED requests 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; **Hanna King** - Garfield High School Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) President and Washington BUS Fellow; **Stefanie Fox** - SSC Co-Chair, Mental Health, Chemical Abuse & Dependency Services Division, King County; **Chris Johnson** - King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; **Kathy Kaminski** - SSC Fiscal Chair; **Kyle Rapinan** – SSC Co-Chair; **Matt Munson**, Planned Parenthood of the Great NW & SSC C-Secretary; **Paul Christiansen**

By Phone:

Gabi Clayton-SSC Webspinner/Membership Chair/Trainer, Families United Against Hate (FUAH), Youth Guardian Services (YGS), and PFLAG-Olympia

(1) SHARING:

- Matt's position has gotten continued funding. Yay. Matt also reported that **Planned Parenthood of the Great NW** has bought two copies of the film *Straightlaced* for their ed team's use around the region.
- Frieda reminded folks that the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Conference - "**Transgress, Transform, Transcend**" – will be at the University of Washington campus Aug 14-16, 2009!!!! More info: www.ngapia.org. Frieda also reported that Seattle's **Wing Luke Museum** has an LGBT API exhibit right now (Across the Spectrum: Stories from Queer Asian Pacific America, on display through February 14, 2010 -- www.wingluke.org)
- Kyle reported on an upcoming OUTSpoken youth panel at the **Moving the Margins** training at **Casey Family Services**. Kyle also talked about a WAFT Training at SSC and reported that Casey bought some copies of *Straightlaced*
- Chris reported that **King County Sexual Assault Resource Center** is studying gaps in cyber safety for youth. Most internet safety training misses the mark, failing to specifically target kids that are most at risk of being sexually exploited on line (those with a history of prior exploitation, queer and questioning boys, kids who engage in online risk behavior). So far they've focused work with service providers; we discussed ways to reach youth-at-risk and possible collaborations among agencies. Beth will follow up about PHSKC and KCSARC possibly co-teaching at juvenile detention. Hanna and Matt offered their groups for piloting new cyber safety education.
- Hanna discussed her summer Fellowship at **Washington Bus**, a youth driven nonprofit fostering democracy and voter engagement. **DID YOU KNOW that the average age of primary voter is 62???!?** The Bus and the Recording Academy and the Stranger present a FREE forum called Candidate Survivor - the biggest, best, and possibly sexiest event of the political season. **Candidate Survivor is your chance to get Seattle's future leaders onto our turf, answering our questions. Tuesday, July 28th at the Showbox at the Market, from 7 to 9.** There will be a Survivor contest: throughout the evening, the audience will be voting candidates off-stage. More: www.washingtonbus.org
- Briana, the Coalition's new **OUTSpoken** (speakers' bureau and youth panels) Manager introduced herself. She has a Masters in Social Work from the University of Washington and is finishing up an internship providing mental health therapy at

Seattle Counseling Service for Sexual Minorities. Her background includes work at Tyee and Odyssey High Schools and Seattle Young People's Project and her perspective includes strong social justice and youth empowerment lenses.

- Paul introduced himself as a teacher (currently tutoring) involved at regional **Quaker** organizations
- Gabi reported that **PFLAG Olympia** will do a screening of *Straightlaced* in the fall. Gabi also reported on an exciting Thurston County coalition called "**The Pizza Klatch**" (www.pizzaklatch.org) which offers facilitated support for GLBTQ youth and their allies. The support is offered during high school lunch periods, with free pizza, to provide a convenient and safe forum for the discussion of topics important to these youths.

(5) LISTSERVE REPORT – Beth

a) **Welcome** to recent subscribers from:

→ Seattle, WA (4)	→ Renton, WA	→ Lawrence, KS
→ Pasadena, CA	→ Olympia, WA (2)	→ Jackson, TN
→ East Hartford, CT	→ Greensboro, NC	
→ Oakland, CA	→ Atlanta, GA	

b) We now have subscribers in at least **11 countries** (Australia, Belize, Canada, China, Finland, Pakistan, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, United Kingdom, the U.S. and New Zealand), **5 Canadian provinces** (AB, BC, NB, ON, QC) and **46 U.S. states** (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY) plus **Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico**.

c) **HELP NEEDED:** Why is nobody subscribed in **Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan** or **Newfoundland and Labrador**? Why is nobody subscribed in **Delaware, North Dakota, Rhode Island**, or **West Virginia**? **If you have friends and colleagues in those states and provinces or in countries where nobody is utilizing the listserve, please make sure they know that they would be welcome to subscribe and to send us listserve items, too – job openings, events, curricula and other classroom tools, research, etc. There are two ways to subscribe.** Signing up for "IMPORTANT NEWS" gets you an average of 1-2 messages a week, mostly action items, meeting minutes and major announcements. Signing up for "NEWS" gets you those messages plus news, opinion, events and job digests totaling an average of 2 messages a day. Not subscribed? Need to change the address we send to or to switch lists? Go to: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/listsab.asp>

d) Matt volunteered to provide job digests at least until the fall. Thank you.

e) Hanna volunteered to provide support as Maya takes on the right-wing-watch digests. Thank you.

(2) MEDIA SWAT TEAM (AMELIA EARHART BRIGADE) NEWS – Stefanie, Hanna

a) The team is starting to train itself, using the awesome book **News for a Change** as a study guide.

b) They will soon be putting out a call for volunteers; watch this space.

(3) WEB SITE REPORT – Gabi

The 10 most frequently downloaded resources in **June 2009** were:

- **Use Another Word**, an article by Nancy Meltzoff about a student-led initiative in Springfield, OR, to reduce disrespectful language:
<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/UseAnotherWord.pdf>

- ***Why Don't You Tell Them I'm a Boy? Raising a Gender-Nonconforming Child***, an article by "Florence Dillon" about helping the school to understand her gender variant <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/whydontyoutellthem.pdf>
 - ***The Prevalence, Characteristics, and Typology of Washington State School District Policies on Bullying, Harassment, and Discrimination***, a paper by Carmen D. McDowell examining bullying policies in Washington public schools prior to the bullying law's going into effect in August of 2003 <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/PolicyAnalysisProject-Final10-6-02.pdf>
 - ***Anti-Gay Bullying: What's the Big Deal?*** Highlights from the American Association of University Women's Hostile Hallways: Bullying, Teasing, and Sexual Harassment in School: http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/Anti-GayBullying_Whats-theBigDeal.pdf
 - ***Learning About Sexual Diversity at School ~ What Is Age Appropriate?*** a paper by Beth Reis updated in July 2009: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/whatisageappropriate.pdf>
 - ***When Your Child "Comes Out"*** an article by Kathy Byrd from the Far West Family Services newsletter: http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/When_Your_Child_Comes_Out.pdf
 - ***Glossary*** from the Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/glossary.pdf>
 - ***A Living Memory LGBT History Timeline***, adapted from a document compiled by Loree Cook-Daniels of FORGE (For Ourselves: Reworking Gender Expression) and TAN (The Transgender Aging Network): <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/LivingMemory-lgbtHistoryTimeline.pdf>
 - ***They Don't Even Know Me! Understanding Anti-Gay Harassment and Violence in Schools*** a report of the five year research project of the Safe Schools Coalition that examined anti-LGBTQ bullying and assault in Washington State elementary, middle and high schools: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/theydontevenknowme.pdf>
 - ***Educator Trainer Assessment Tool***, for self-assessment and peer- and supervisor-assessment of sexuality education activities developed by The Association for Sexuality Education and Training: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/staff/ETAT.pdf>
- b) Gabi is working on launching an online forum for teachers (elementary?)
- c) Beth is drafting an LGBT Issues in K-12 Schools & the LAW quiz for the web site.
- d) Kyle agreed to work on updating the glossary.
- e) **HELP NEEDED: [Quick Facts on Sexual Minority Youth](http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/contact/?id=11), who can update statistics about LGBT young people? Anyone have any time? Contact Gabi: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/contact/?id=11>**

(4) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

- a) Letters were mailed to 70+ current or recent member orgs on July 14th thanking them for renewing (if they had) or asking them to renew. One has requested an invoice.
- b) **PLEASE join renew your organization's membership today:** http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members_join-renew.html

(5) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny

- a) Among other intervention support this month, we provided guidance to a Catholic school parent of a special education student this month ... in Ohio.
- b) Kyle volunteered with the Intervention Team to take the Thursday shift. Thank you.

(6) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana

- a) Upcoming training/speaking gigs
- Odyssey Youth Conference 7/25

- Foster Care Conference 9/25-9/26
 - Research Project in Lexington, KY
 - Beth will be presenting on *K-12 Schools, LGBTQ issues and the Law* at Seattle University School of Education 7/22/09
 - Beth will be co-presenting on *Addressing LGBTQ Issues in Schools* at the Northwest Institute for Community Health Educators (NICHE) next week
- b) Recent youth panels, with audiences totaling about 118.
- 5 panels in one day at Seattle's Washington Middle School on June 17
 - Casey Family Programs, July 2
- c) Upcoming youth panels
- Casey Family Programs, 7/22
 - YMCA Summer Youth Employment Program 8/10
- d) Recent outreach tabling -- We tabled at Pride events around the region. Thank you to these volunteers and member orgs!!!
- Spokane Pride – Sandy Williams, Odyssey Youth
 - Renton Pride -- Barb Clark-Elliot, PFLAG
 - Tacoma Pride -- Yoshiko Matsui, University of Puget Sound
 - Tri-Cities Pride -- Mark Nathan Lee, Vista Youth
 - Bellingham Pride -- Tracy Dahlstadt, Planned Parenthood
 - Vancouver Pride -- Karen Kulm
- e) Upcoming outreach tabling **for which volunteers are needed (contact Briana: briana@safeschoolscoalition.org)**
- Queer API Conference 8/14-8/16
 - Schools Out WA Event 8/27
 - Gender Odyssey Conference 9/5-9/7
 - Links and Alliances Conference 11/14

(7) ENDORSEMENT DECISIONS – Eduardo

- a) **Seattle OUT Protest** (www.seattleoutprotest.org) ... planned events to coincide with the national march – Decision was tabled, as we didn't have enough information without Eduardo

(6) SPECIAL EVENTS – Beth

- a) **June 28th Seattle Pride Parade.** We had our traditional yellow school bus in the parade. We also had two awesome placards carried in the Public Health contingent, attached. We discussed next year having a more coordinated SSC presence on the bus itself to better balance the excellent presence of Seattle Public Schools, including carrying our nice banner (the one made by GSA members) and with a new bus banner (needs to be made – Frieda will call WEA about providing design and printing)
- b) **Caitlyn Ryan to speak in Seattle, Thursday, July 23rd** Please join us for the latest research on supporting LGBT youth. How do family reactions to a LGBT young person affect their physical and mental health and future likelihood to thrive? Caitlin Ryan, PhD, ACSW, Director, The Family Acceptance Project Cesar Chavez Institute at San Francisco State University 5:30pm: Welcome & Reception, 6pm to 7:30pm: Program, Q & A; *Light appetizers and beverages will be served.* The Bertschi School (2227 - 10th Avenue East Seattle, WA) At the Bertschi Center [Directions & Parking](#) Please [RSVP by July 22nd to Jody Waits](#) 206.323.3318 X111

(7) CONSULTING – Beth, Frieda

- a) GSA Network is working on a guide for students about LGBTQ-inclusion and Beth is providing consultation.
- b) Stefanie offered consultation to a group in Maine; they aren't quite ready. More info to follow.

- c) Hanna provided consultation to SexEtc. at Rutgers University re: an online course for teacher they are designing re: LGBTQ issues.
- d) Kyle provided his story as a case study for a book being published soon by OSPI (Ron Hertel, Program Supervisor, Readiness to Learn, Mental Health, Foster Care)

(8) HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY – Beth

- a) We are working, in collaboration with the rest of the Healthy Youth Alliance, on providing input to OSPI and DOH re: the 2010 survey

(9) FISCAL REPORT

- a) **A leadership team member is needed to serve as temporary fiscal lead in Sept and Oct, when Kathy is starting grad school and Beth is on vacation.**
- b) HUGE thank you to recent donors:
 - Betty Freund
 - Karen Kulm
 - Kyle Rapinan
 - and folks who contribute via America’s Charities and the City of Seattle (payroll deduction)
- 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> !!!!

(10) LAW & POLICY WORK GROUP

- a) Frieda will write up for SSC an explanation of the impact of the new changes in the definition of “basic education” for Washington State.
- b) **YOUR OPINION NEEDED by August 4th: What do people want to change in Washington or national law/policies? Email Co-Chairs of Law and Policy workgroup: Lonnie Johns-Brown at lonniejb@comcast.net or Jennifer Allen at jennifer.allen@ppnetworkwa.org**
 - **If you could have any one thing required or prohibited or funded by the legislature, what would it be?**
 - **If you could have the Board of Education change one thing under their jurisdiction, what would it be?**
 - **If you could have OSPI change one rule (WAC), what would it be?**
- c) Next Law & Policy Work Group Meeting (for visioning and long-term planning): August 4th. Interested in joining the work group? Contact the chairs (see 10b, above)
- d) We discussed if hate crime laws disproportionately hurt people of color. And the difference between punitive “zero tolerance” bullying policies and educational “zero indifference” bullying policies. How do local community responses work? How do anti-LGBT bullying policies help/hurt people of color? More on these issues to follow.

(11) 15 minutes on a DEEPER QUESTION each month ... this month: What is it specifically that got you hooked or that keeps you coming to Coalition meetings?

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.

Aug 18th, 2-4 pm [summer hours]. Heather Murphy facilitates, Heather Carter records.
Heather M.: 206-616-6361; hmurphy@u.washington.edu

Sept 15th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time **[back to school year schedule]**. Kyle facilitates and Matt records. Kyle: 206-322-6711 ext 32190; KRapinan@casey.org

Oct 20th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time. Stefanie facilitates and Daniel records.
Stefanie: 206-263-8936; Stefanie.fox@kingcounty.gov