

## **Safe Schools Coalition Meeting**

**Minutes 12-20-2011, 3-5 p.m. PDT**

**Facilitating:** Beth Reis; **Recording:** Penny Palmer

**Attending:** Beth Reis, Public Health – Seattle & King County, Safe Schools Co-chair; Penny Palmer, Safe Schools Intervention Coordinator, Safe Schools Co- Secretary; Michelle Munro, Safe Schools Co-chair, Safe Schools treasurer; Katrina Pestano, Safe Schools Speakers Bureau Manager; Amelia Vader, Center for AIDS Research's Community Advisory Board; Jill Davidson, WA. Association of School Psychologists; Tracy Berger, Power of Prevention; Donna Rasmussen, parent and Seattle University student

**Via phone:** Gabi Clayton, Safe Schools Webspinner, PFLAG Olympia, Families United Against Hate, Youth Guardian Services; Denise Fitch, Office of (Washington State) Superintendent of Public Instruction; Mo Lewis, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center

### **(1) SHARING TIME**

- a) Gabi Clayton shared PFLAG Olympia is having a fundraiser the last week in January. Righteous Mothers and Steve Schlachlin will be performing at Traditions in Olympia, 8 pm January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. More here: <http://pflag-olympia.org>
- b) Gabi also shared that the Youth Guardian Services had a board meeting and it is rewarding to see youth from all over the world (Belize, Australia, Jamaica) leading the organization
- c) Denise Fitch OSPI – Introduced herself as the new Jeff Söder. Jeff took Denise's place when she retired; she is back. She will be working with bullying and harassment, the Healthy Youth Survey and drop-out prevention. Welcome back, Denise.
- d) Katrina Pestano reminded us of how tragic the death of Danny Vega – the South Seattle gay Filipino man recently murdered in a brutal beating -- was to his/our community. His loss is significant. There is a great amount of fear as there have been many attacks. Katrina will let us know if there is anything SSC can do.

### **(2) LEADERSHIP CHANGES**

- a) **Rapid Response Network** –Jacque Larrainzar of Seattle Office for Civil Rights and a Safe Schools Coalition Intervention Specialist has volunteered to take this position. Thank you, Jacque.
- b) **Chairs** – Michelle Munro has volunteered to be a Co-Chair and Heather Carter will be moving from Co-Secretary to Co-Chair. Thank you Michelle
- c) **Secretaries** – Airen Lydick from Camp Ten Trees has volunteered to be a Co- Secretary. Thank you Airen.

### **(3) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Michelle, Gabi**

- a) **New membership applications** – none this month
- b) **Renewing member organizations** – Camp Ten Trees has renewed for 2012. Thank you.
- c) **Other** – We will start requesting renewals soon for 2012. Some of the benefits to membership are: joining with other Coalition members to do the work to protect children being harassed or bullied, getting to claim that work as your agency's own, getting access to schools through the good name of the Coalition, being able to do politically edgy work in the name of the Coalition instead of your own agency's name, having your name on the SSC letterhead, being noted as member on the SSC website, and being able to send fundraiser announcements via the SSC listserv

### **(4) FISCAL REPORT – Michelle**

- a) **Thank you to these recent donors** – Beyond the Bridge Grant (Pride Foudnation) of \$2000. It will be used for the SSC Speaker's bureau to add fund trainers and youth panelists to do anti-bullying work with middle schools, hopefully in conjunction with an art project with artist Cody **Blomberg**.

- b) **Balance as of end of last month** - \$45,000
- c) **Other** – The use of a debit card for Beth, Michelle and Katrina was approved, to avoid their having to lay-out funds for projects and wait for reimbursement.
- d) The approval was given to Michelle to spend \$25.00 per month on a subscription to a project management service to help with keeping track of projects.

(5) **STIGMA WORKGROUP – Amelia Vader, Bob Wood**

- a) The Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) Community Action Board member Amelia Vader visited the meeting to learn more about SSC's work in Seattle Schools. Their CAB is interested in learning more about different anti-stigma interventions are currently in place that work to normalize all sexual orientations and gender identities..Because of the strong link between homophobia and HIV infection the CAB is gathering information to solicit funding for a pilot research project that would hope to show effectiveness in reducing LGBTQ-related stigma. They are interested in face-to-face interventions, possibly in the form of digital stories followed by facilitated discussion. They'll be discussing how to approach the pilot funding application at their meeting in January and welcome input. They haven't determined if schools or open community events are the best target for pilot. They're not interested in re-inventing the wheel, but rather if it already exists, it's possible that this project could help evaluate current efforts and maybe provide funding.

(6) **LISTSERVE REPORT**

- a) **Welcome to new subscribers from**
  - New York, NY
  - Millburn, NJ
  - Los Angeles, CA
  - Washington, MD
  - Seattle, WA (2)
  - Los Lunas, NM
- b) New Leadership: Michelle is taking over from Beth the coordination of the Listserve Specialiists
- c) Thank you to Ethan Blustein for long volunteer service to the Coalition and welcome to
- d) **Our current staffing, mostly volunteer, of the listserv is as follows:**
  - News – Corey Bernstein (*Robyn Walters is Corey's back-up*)
  - Jobs, Internships – vacant (**HELP NEEDED: Could you donate 2-4 hours twice/month to the Coalition? Contact Michelle: <mailto:michelle@safeschoolscoalition.org>**)
  - Events – Nik Donia
  - Opinion – Julie Parmenter
  - Lesson Planning Guides – vacant (**HELP NEEDED: Could you donate 4-5 hours once/month to the Coalition? Contact Michelle: <mailto:michelle@safeschoolscoalition.org>**)
  - Right Wing Watch – Ryan Schwartz
  - Legislative/Elective messages and Fundraising – Gabi Clayton
  - Action Items, Resources, Help Needed – Beth Reis

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

- a) **King County Sexual Assault Resource Center calls, 14**
- b) **Intervention calls**
  - 8 yr old autistic boy was sexually assaulted at school. Mother requested help with a safety plan. Ongoing
  - Disabled child being bullied at school. Jacque took case, as mother needed an interpreter. She met with mother and will meet with teacher's assistant regarding school policy and bullying.
  - 14 yr old girl attacked by another girl so severely she got a concussion. Mother wanted help dealing with school on how they handled it and also help with hearing. Ongoing
  - Jr. High girl being bullied at school. She is hiding in bathrooms, outburst, crying etc. Ann met with mother and also met with school admin to work on solving the problem. Ongoing

- Request for resources on gender identity in Elem. School. Boy who identifies as a girl. Mother supports, father punishes. There is a great family support group at Children's Hospital that might be of help.
- 8 yr. old sexually assaulted by an 11 yr. old. Reported and attacker getting treatment. Mother wanted help getting the district to resolve issue of both children taking the same bus.
- Colorado HS staff has made a list if gay students in school. Caller wanted help to make them stop.
- Prank call to KCSARC line from boy who claims to be being bullied. Different name and number but the same story each time. Calls coming from Texas. KSCARC will suggest that he quits if he calls again. We received the call and tried to call but the number was not a working number
- We received a call from the parent of a high school asking for help protecting the GSA at the school. She feels the administration is trying to get rid of it.
- We discussed the role of the intervention team in requests regarding Sexual assault or learning challenges. The team does not deal with the legal aspect of interventions and we do not have expertise in handling other factors such as autism. We can and do help parents in these situations with "Safety Plans to protect their child while at school. Hopefully we can work with parents and administrators to accomplish a safe learning environment.

**(8) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT -KATRINA**

**a) Speakers Bureau & Training Team**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Trainers:</b>	<b>Audience Total:</b>
11/28	ACE High School	Nathan Shara	40
11/29	King County Youth Development	Heather	45

Pending: Cascade Middle School – GSA  
GSA Youth Leadership Conference

**b) Outreach**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Tablers:</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday/mo.	WFHB Radio Segments	Beth, Gabi, Rosalinda, Tracy
12/1	Filstar Youth Program	Katrina
12/4	NW Network/APISC Danny Vega Community Discussion	Katrina

Upcoming: Seattle Channel  
Highline School District

**(9) WEB SITE(S) REPORT – Gabi**

- a) The most searched for terms ON the site in November were, in order: Cards, Safe, Role, Model, School, Fact, Video, Sexual Harassment, Bullying, Poster and Zone.
- b) Other than variations on "safe schools coalition" the most common search phrases that led users TO the site were such things as:
  - lgbt [or gay or lesbian or transgender] **scholarships** and grants
  - scholarships in washington state [or Canada]
  - **anti bullying lesson plans** [or curriculum or activities] for elementary [or middle or high] school
  - the revealers lesson plans
  - hate crimes lesson plans
  - anti-gay [or lgbt] bullying **statistics** [or graphs]
  - **homophobia** in schools
  - **harassment** in schools
  - free health [or LGBT or safe zone] **posters** for schools

- (10) **POSSIBLE FUTURE PUBLICATIONS – Beth**
- a) **Handbook on sexuality & gender** – A new handbook was presented to the SSC for editing and discussion of what audience it could serve. Jill and donna agreed to provide editorial comments to Caryn, the author.
  - b) **Justice Circles** – feedback requested. Beth will email to leadership group.
- (11) **SSC General Questions** – This type of question was handled by Frieda before Frieda retired. Michelle volunteered to handle email messages requesting this type of information. Thank you!
- (12) **Trevor Project** – The Trevor Project is coming to Seattle to promote their awesome national toll-free LGBT Youth National Suicide Hotline. The two NW Trevor board members and Beth along with Heather, and staff and board members from the Youth Suicide Prevention Program are working together to collaborate on resource use.
- (13) **OSPI** – OSPI can be contacted to help with developing investigation or training information regarding the new laws. Contact Denise Fitch in the Safety Center: [denise.fitch@k12.wa.us](mailto:denise.fitch@k12.wa.us)
- (14) **GSBA Guide** -- We are listed with Rosehedge's address. If Rosehedge changes locations Michelle will change after the first of the year.
- (15) **SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' NEW BULLYING REPORTING FORM** – The new form, attached to these minutes, does not ask if bullying and harassment had anything to do with the forms of bias listed in the law (race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity, mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics. Jill will work with the district to check on this.

### UPCOMING COALITION MEETINGS

All are welcome.

There are, as always, two ways to attend:

- The **face-to-face** meeting is at Planned Parenthood, 2001 E Madison, Seattle. Please park on the street, not in the lot, and keep your cell phone in your pocket until you get up to the 2nd floor. **And -- tedious as it sounds -- please sign in as you enter the building and again when you get to the meeting room and sign out as you leave.**
- For information about how to **call in**, contact that month's chair.

**January 17<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Beth** facilitates for Heather M, **Heather C** records.

**February 21<sup>st</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Mo** facilitates and **Frank** records.

**March 20<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Matthew** facilitates and **Penny** records.

**April 17<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Heather M** facilitates, **Heather C** records.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Mo** facilitates and **Frank** records.

**June 19<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Matthew** facilitates and **Penny** records.

**July 17<sup>th</sup>**, **2-4 pm** Pacific Time. **Heather M** facilitates, **Heather C** records.

**August 21<sup>st</sup>**, **2-4 pm** Pacific Time. **Mo** facilitates and **Frank** records.

**September 18<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Matthew** facilitates and **Penny** records.

**October 16<sup>th</sup>**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Heather M** facilitates, **Heather C** records.

**November 20<sup>th</sup>**, **2012**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Mo** facilitates and **Frank** records.

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**, **2012**, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Matthew** facilitates and **Penny** records.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** for Chairs, Secretaries, Contractors:

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