

Safe Schools Coalition Meeting Minutes

9-20-2011, 3-5 p.m. PDT

Facilitating: Beth Reis; Recording: Penny Palmer

Attending: Beth Reis, SSC Co-chair, Public Health – Seattle & King County; Penny Palmer, SSC Intervention Coordinator, SSC Co- secretary; Briana Herman-Brand, SSC Speakers Bureau Manager; Matthew Wilson, OASIS Youth Center, Pierce County AIDS Foundation; Chris Johnson, Harborview Center for Sexual Assault & Traumatic Stress; Vijou Bryant, The NW Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian and Gay Survivors of Abuse; Sam Behrens, NW Network

By Phone: Gabi Clayton, SSC Webspinner, PFLAG Olympia, Youth Guardian Services, Families United Against Hate

(1) SHARING TIME:

- a) Chris Johnson reported that the Children's Response Center at Harborview Hospital is involved in a Public Health – Seattle & King County team that is writing sexual violence prevention lessons for a 2nd edition of the **Middle School FLASH** (Family Life and Sexual Health) Curriculum. Beth Reis is on a team writing other lessons for the new **Middle School FLASH**.
- b) Gabi Clayton informed the group that Youth Guardian Services has a new Executive Director in Australia and a new Assistant Executive Director from Jamaica. Youth Guardian Services is a youth-run non-profit organization that provides three YOUTH email support lists for GLBTQ youth ages 13-17, 17-21 & 21-25, heterosexual ally youth and LGBTQ youth with eating disorders. www.youth-guard.org
- c) Mathew Wilson (OASIS) took part in the GLSEN training of trainers and will be providing a training in Jan. or Feb. More information will follow.

(2) CHARLIE IS STEPPING DOWN AS CO-CHAIR

- a) Thank you Charlie. It would have been awesome in this role. We wish you the besting the next chapter and safe travels.
- b) HELP NEEDED: Have you thought about giving time to the Safe Schools Coalition? Step into the leadership team. It takes between 4 to 8 hours per month depending on which responsibilities you take on. We could use 2 new Co-Chairs. If interested please contact Beth Reis. <mailto:beth.reis@kingcounty.gov>**

(3) HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY – Beth

- a) One of the questions about sexual health that SSC worked so hard to get included in the survey – the one about genders of partners -- was omitted in the final draft administered fall 2010. Because of a funding glitch, the fall 2012 survey has already been printed.
- b) The Coalition has decided to form an ad hoc community organizing committee to coordinate a statewide effort to offer to the Department of Health to reach out to the schools that opted out of the survey in the past based on the questions of sexuality (or other reasons) to educate them on the importance of opting in and the inclusion of such questions. **HELP NEEDED (great project for an undergraduate or graduate student in public health or health education): We need someone willing to convene such a committee.** Beth Reis, Mo Lewis and Matthew Wilson said they would be willing to serve on the committee if someone is willing to be the convener.

(4) AWARDS!

- a) On October 22, Heather Carter will accept the [Washington State Association for Multicultural Education](#)'s 2011 Multicultural Excellence Award on behalf of the Safe Schools Coalition.
- b) We also received, on September 17th, a beautiful Equality Award from the [Human Rights Campaign](#). Beth accepted that one on our behalf; it was passed around at the meeting.
- c) **Many thanks to these two organizations for honoring the work of the Safe Schools Coalition. We are grateful for the recognition and the chance to publicize this important work.**

(5) RECENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE – Beth & Heather

- a) **Seattle Schools' Reference Guide for Appropriate Implementation of Non-Discrimination Policies, specifically for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students** (Beth provided editorial input)
- b) **Answer - Sex Ed Honestly @ Rutgers University's LGBTQ Issues in Schools - Online Workshop** for teachers (Beth provided editorial input)
- c) **Broward County Schools'** (greater Ft. Lauderdale, FL) **LGBTQ issues** efforts (Heather Carter and Beth Reis participated in a conference call to offer technical assistance)
- d) **Scenarios USA's REAL DEAL curriculum** on power & relationships (Beth will provide editorial input within next 2 weeks – apologies for the delay, Ernestine)

(6) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

- a) BIG thanks to Joey Pickering, Heather Carter, and Beth Reis for help with contacting members who had not yet renewed for 2011.
- b) A new membership application from SOAR <<http://www.childrenandyouth.org>> was received this month and we passed them in unanimously. Welcome to the Safe Schools Coalition!

SOAR is the community coalition working together to promote the healthy development of children, youth and families – to ensure that all children succeed in school and in life. Our work focuses on:

- Promoting collaboration between early childhood and youth development providers based on shared goals and a common vision;
- Creating networks by centralizing resources and expertise while also strengthening connections between individuals, organizations and communities; and Supporting advocacy by catalyzing our partners to improve the conditions and support systems for children, youth and families.

- c) **THANK YOU to these recently renewed member organizations:**
 - Groundspark
 - Idaho Safe Schools Coalition
 - Gender Identity/Expression and Sexual Orientation Resource Center at Washington State University
 - Washington Association of School Social Workers
 - Teen Talking Circles

(7) FISCAL REPORT – Michelle

- **Thank you to these recent donors:**
 - Pam Jensen
 - Frieda Takamura in honor of Beth Reis' birthday
 - Melissa Adams
 - Jordan Keala
 - Anonymous

(8) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana, Heather, Beth

- a) Briana is stepping down as Speakers Bureau Manager. **Thank you** for more than two years of leading the speakers' bureau and training team and the Coalition's outreach efforts!!
- b) **We will be contracting with a new Speakers Bureau Manager. The contract is for 11 months approximately 15hrs. per week @ \$20-25 an hour, DOE. Please apply by October 7, 2011 by sending a cover letter and resume to beth@safeschoolscoalition.org. (See the position description [here](#).)**
- c) **Upcoming training:**
 - SSC Law & Policy Work Group Gender Training 10/10

- King County Youth Development Network Event 11/2
- Concord International Elementary School

d) **Upcoming Outreach**

- WFHB radio (Bloomington, IN -- <http://www.wfhb.org/>) segments, 4th Thursday/month starting 9/22 at 3 pm, Pacific; Beth, Gabi, Rosalinda, Tracy
- Non-Profit Expo, 10/5 – Wait list
- Greater Seattle Business Association Mixer, 10/12
- **Rainbow City Band Concert, 10/16 (HELP NEEDED: tablers)** More info <http://rainbowcityband.com/>
- Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival 10/22 ... 4:30 pm, Pacific Place Cinema. Safe Schools Coalition is community co-sponsor for a film entitled **Boy Cheerleaders**. More about the film festival here: <http://threedollarbillcinema.org/11/> and more about the film, including a trailer: <http://slgff.strangertickets.com/films/4121411/boy-cheerleaders>
- Washington Association for Multicultural Education Conference, 10/22. More info <http://www.wsame.org/>

(9) **White Privilege Conference** (which will be in Albuquerque, NM March 28-31, 2012) **will be in Seattle April 10-13, 2013**. A planning committee is currently meeting. **HELP NEEDED: The planning committee is still looking for committee members. Contact Yaneth Vrentas <mailto:yvrentas@meridianschool.edu>**

(10) **HELP NEEDED: Current Safe Schools Coalition brochures are running out. They need to be redesigned before we reprint. We have cool examples from various sources of what directions we might go, but HELP IS NEEDED to redesign them. One for potential donors, one for volunteers and one for students/families needing intervention services. We will need both a project lead and a graphic artist. Are you feeling creative? Contact Beth: beth@safeschoolscoalition.org**

(11) **THE NATIONAL SAFE SCHOOLS ROUNDTABLE**

The annual convening is coming up. It will be held in Nashville, TN, on Nov. 16-18. Matthew and Gabi are both considering representing us and serving on an NSSR committee this year as our liaison to the Roundtable. Decisions will follow.

(12) **WEB SITE(S) REPORT – Gabi**

- a) We averaged over **8,500 hits** from an average of **925 visitors** a day in August. Our new search engine for the SSC website can locate information on 858 pages.
- b) We had visitors in August from **103 countries**. The most visitors hailed from, in order: **United States, France, China, and Russia**. Others accessed our resources from less populous parts of the world (e.g., Chile, Cyprus, Liechtenstein, Pakistan)
- c) **HELP NEEDED: We volunteers to write for our blog and manage the**

Face Book page and Twitter posts. Please contact Gabi if interested: webspinner@safeschoolscoalition.org.

- d) HELP NEEDED: We had survey software donated to the web site. We need a volunteer to design a survey (weekly? biweekly? monthly?) – even a short one-item survey, to make the site more interactive. You would NOT need computer skills. That is Gabi’s role. Just an hour a week or less to use your creativity and pass ideas along to Gabi, our WebSpinner. Interested? Contact Gabi: webspinner@safeschoolscoalition.org**

(13) BOOK REVIEWER

- a) Thank you to Oasis for volunteering to do a book review on the following book: *Out & Allied: An Anthology of Performance Pieces Written by LGBTQ Youth and Allies*. Review will follow!

(14) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny

- a) **We’ve done interventions this month on behalf of students in:** Kitsap County, WA., Stevens County WA., Walla Walla County, WA and Burden Kansas
- b) **The interventions included:**
- A request for help with a bathroom assignment for a transgender student.
 - A request for posters and information regarding hanging them in a school district which is very conservative.
 - A request for help setting up a safety plan for a child that is being bullied.
 - A request for help getting a bullied student into an alternative school.

(15) MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION – Beth

- a) So far in 2011, SSC publications (mostly posters) have been ordered by schools in:
- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| → Philadelphia, PA | → Newcastle, WA | → Boulder, CO |
| → Newberg, OR | → Oakland, CA | → Napa, CA |
| → Seattle, WA | → Norfolk, VA | → Laramie, WY |
| | → Bellevue, WA | → Oak Park, IL |

(16) LISTSERV REPORT – Beth

- a) Beth Kelly at OSPI will be stepping in as Listserv Specialist soon, taking over Events Digests.
- b) Joseph Bonnell is needing to step down as the Listserv Specialist who manages news digests. Thank you, Joseph!
- c) HELP NEEDED: We will need one volunteer to send weekly news digests. It will require 2-4 hours per week when starting and then 1-2**

hours per week once you get the hang of it. You can live anywhere in the world. Interested? Contact Beth: beth@safeschoolscoalition.org

d) **Welcome to subscribers** in the last month or so from:

→ *Plymouth, MN* → *Fort* → *Lynnwood, WA*
→ *St. Louis, MO* → *Lauderdale, FL* → *Seattle, WA (2)*
→ *Potsdam, NY* → *Everett, WA*

(17) **FIRST WA STATE BULLYING TASK FORCE MEETING**

The group met last Monday to discuss goals the legislature charged them with and to work on the number and timing of meetings. Gabi Clayton, Heather Carter, Linda Mangel (ACLU), and Jill Mullins (formerly of QLaw) attended on our behalf.

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.

October 18th, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Heather M** facilitates, **Heather C** records. Heather: 206-616-6361; hmurphy@u.washington.edu

Nov 15th, 3-5 pm Pacific Time. **Mo** facilitates and **Frank** records. Mo: 425-226-5062; mlewis@kcsarc.org

Dec 20th, 3-5 pm _____ facilitates and **Penny** records.