

## **Health & Wellness Sub- Committee Meeting**

Monday, March 5, 2018

In attendance:

Jane Canulla (Board member), Elsbeth Brown (parent), Michele Audette (parent), Penny Bailey (school nurse/teacher), Todd Murano (Teacher of P.E. and Health), Barbara Cesana (Secondary Assistant Principal), Nancy Maguire Heath (RISD Director)

The meeting started at 5:45 PM with introductions.

Each member received a packet which included:

- Agenda
- RI Regulations requiring a Health & Wellness Sub-committee
- One complete set of current School Health and Wellness policies

The meeting started with a review of the regulations and the purpose of this sub-committee of the Board of Trustees.

### **School Nursing**

Penny Bailey, School Nurse/Teacher, discussed her qualifications, the certification process for School Nurse/Teachers in Rhode Island, and the professional organizations that she is a member of to help her remain informed. She provided a detailed overview of the role of School Health & Nursing in the School. She described the daily duties, procedures and protocols, relationship with consulting physicians, and her work supporting families by providing access to community medical and dental resources.

Her responsibilities include

- Annual screenings: dental, vision, and spinal
- Tracking immunizations
- Developing Individual Student Health Plans for complex medical needs
- Providing First Aid and daily nursing care, with the goal of keeping kids in school
- Serving weekly on the WBT (Well-Being Team)
- Developing Nursing policies and procedures
- Maintaining and disseminating community health resources to families
- Working with consulting physicians and dentists and community health groups
- Staff training and workshops in health-related areas, such as Epi-Pen, Universal Precautions, monitoring allergies, and CPR

She described the community-wide Wellness Week activities that are planned for one full week this month from 3/19-3/23.

- Monday is “screen-free” day
- Parents who have healthy leisure skills to share will come in to school
- Movement breaks throughout the day
- “Get caught eating your vegetables” day
- Whole school will take a break and walk around the outdoor track together

The School Nurse/ Teacher works in collaboration with the social worker, audiologists, and school counselor to promote and ensure emotional well-being and safety. She also guides the Healthy Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Snack Program, ensures that children have lunch every day, and is a team member that helps to ensure that children are registered for the afterschool snack program if they stay for an after school activity.

Mrs. Bailey concluded by providing a tour of her nursing suite to members of the sub-committee.

The Committee was asked to review the packet of current health policies and bring comments and questions to the next meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, at 5:45, pending availability of ASL interpreters