**GISD SHAC Meeting Minutes**

When: February 1, 2023 12:00pm-1:45pm

Where: Houston Education Center

Members present: Roger Livingston, Bonnie Jean Stewart, Jessica Livingston, Lisa Saxton, Laurie Spivey, Threesa Sadler, Jace Franklin, Sunny Sickels, Natalie Gibson, Berniece Brown, Karina McClure, Les Santibanez, Sharee Osteen

Guest: Anji Taylor, Tish Woodruff

**Welcome:**

Introduction of Guest Speaker and Lunch

**Presentation:**

Review of the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program by Amy Ramsey with the Hunt County Children's Advocacy Center

**Discussion:**

Questions about the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program

* Jessica Livingston and Berniece Brown-At the start of the presentation, students should be asked to flip their badges and raise their hand if they are aware of the significance of the number on it, its purpose, and how to utilize it.
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-I can do that.
* How do you handle a crisis call?
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-The caller is asked to write and sign a suicide-free pact, and a phone number for the suicide prevention hotline is given. 911 is always called if the student is in imminent danger.
* Sunny Sickels-Counselors need to take the initiative to engage with students and build a rapport with them, communicating their willingness to offer support beyond just academic needs.
* Answer: Sherri Cano-Would it be impactful if two counselors spoke during a presentation, expressing that they are available for more than just academic needs?
* Answer: Sunny Sickels-yes
* Threesa Sadler-Recommended an anonymous text line directly to the school counselors.
* Answer: Sherri Cano-We can explore that idea.
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-Students can also text the 988-crisis lifeline number if they aren’t comfortable talking to someone.
* Berniece Brown-Are the school counselors’ teachers or behavioral health professionals? Do we have LPC’s or social workers?
* Answer: Sherri Cano-We have an LPC at GHS and NHHS. I believe we have a social worker at GHS.
* How is the material being presented to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students?
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-The 7th and 8th grade need to hear the entire presentation. I might pull back on some of the videos and definitions for the 6th grade students.
* Are you going to offer a presentation to the parents?
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-I would be happy to do it.
* How do you students feel about parents attending the presentation with the students?
* Answer: Sunny Sickels-I think logistically it might be hard for parents to get there, but it wouldn’t hurt.
* Answer: Jace Franklin-I don’t think it’s a problem.
* Jace Franklin-How many kids will be at each presentation?
* Answer: Amy Ramsey- The presentations will be three days, eight periods, ideally no more than 60 students per presentation.
* Lisa Saxton-Is the presentation for 5th and 6th at the Intermediate school?
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-Just the 6th grade
* Berniece Brown and others-Not all parents are able to attend a meeting due to work, but would still like to be informed and involved. Can the materials and resources be sent to parents or posted for review?
* Answer: Sherri Cano-The SHAC homepage would be a good place to post the materials and resources.
* Jace Franklin-What about videoing the meeting for parents who are unable to attend?
* Answer: Amy Ramsey-That would be a great idea.
* Answer: Sherri Cano-It would need to be approved by administration and IT.

**Action Items:**

The council voted unanimously to present the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program to the GISD School Board.

Approval of January minutes-approved as written.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45pm

Next Meeting: to be determined