

MINUTES 10/3/19 Tobacco/Vapes Task Force
12 - 1 pm
BOCES Room 148

Present:

Robert Galbreath
Sarah Hixson
Joey Burke
Emily Rae
Melinda Bobo

Eric Makelky
John Kelly
Janna Lee
Trisha Scott

Meeting Notes:

- Vape detector update from Principal Makelky: First week that vape detectors were installed last spring they went off 18 times and admin and SRO were unable to find devices on the students, students were hiding devices in their underwear. School and school board had to rewrite the search policy. After the search policy was changed, frequency of vape detector alerts decreased. Joey Burke noted that the search policy change may have been what changed the level of use. Currently the data from the vape detectors is being tracked by Mr. Shaw, the Skyline Academy principal. Data will only measure vape use in school bathrooms, will not measure an increase or decrease in student use overall. Trisha will reach out to Mr. Shaw to invite him to task force and coalition meetings as he inherited a critical role in measuring outcomes.
- Rev. Melinda Bobo and Principal Makelky will communicate about future funding from the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming for detectors for all middle and high school bathrooms. Working estimate: \$26,000 - \$28,000.
- To further the “multiple points of contact” strategy to educate parents: Principal Makelky will provide confiscated vapes to Emily Rae, PR director for SCRHCD to have in exam rooms for providers to do ‘show and tell’ with parents. Trisha and Jenn Wilkinson doing vape classes and tables at PMS parent teacher conferences, to educate parents. Most parents we speak with have not seen or smelled the devices and this appears to have an impact on how they will talk to their kids.
- BPHS: Trisha will reach out to Principal Jeff Makelky and Deputy Day to assess needs re: vape detectors and educating BP parents..
- Brief update on youth coalition progress: Joey and Trisha’s latest efforts were to educate PAC Teen Council about WASCOP funds available to advisors, SADD curriculum available to a council/coalition, and a template for how a youth coalition might work with the PAC Teen Council. Mr. Makelky recommended student councils as possible coalition. Joey Burke will follow up with Carolyn Normington and Rose Robertson.
- Report on September policy developments at town, county, and state level.
- Task Force members wrote thank you cards to all Pinedale Middle School students who testified before legislators on 9/18.

Adjourn.

