

MINUTES: 1/12/2021 TOBACCO

12 - 1 PM

ONLINE OVER ZOOM

Present:

Joey Burke, Task Force Chair, Quit Tobacco facilitator, Life Coach

Peggy Weber, Community member and Quit Tobacco group participant

David Shaw, Principal, Skyline Academy

Ryan Grove, Physician's Assistant, Sublette Rural Health Care District

Trisha Scott, Prevention Coordinator

Notes:

Ryan recommended getting all our local and state quit resources into the patient rooms and ER. Ryan will let Trisha know the date of the next SCRHCD clinic provider meeting and Trisha will contact Dave Doorn and Emily Ray to request 5 minutes at the provider meeting to ask how we can help providers help their patients quit tobacco, and to provide all our quit materials.

Mr. Shaw requested information on youth access to NRT (Nicotine Replacement Therapy). Currently youth cannot purchase NRT over the counter without parent permission, which is a barrier to kids who want to quit but don't want their parents to know they are using tobacco products. Trisha will follow up with Rep Sommers and report to the task force.

Mr. Shaw reported that 2019 federal and state legislation raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco products made it more difficult for Sublette kids to purchase locally, so they drive farther, to Rock Springs and Idaho Falls, where they know there are places they can purchase.

On vape detectors: Mr. Shaw reported they are still in use but mostly useless because kids know how to exhale the vapor into their sleeve, or swallow the exhale, to avoid detection. Mr. Shaw would not recommend that schools purchase vape detectors given their tech problems, software problems, the number of false positives, and that kids have either figured out how to vape without detection, or they just go vape in their vehicles. PHS vape detectors were a pilot project that the prevention grant partnered with the school and Pinedale Town Council to purchase. Dept of Health is no longer authorizing funds for vape detectors UNLESS the school consequences involve tobacco prevention and cessation services for all who receive citations. Lincoln County has a tobacco cessation requirement for youth citations and they are negotiating purchase with WDH.

Deputy Ryan Day, SRO at BPHS, reported via phone the day before this meeting that he thinks vape detectors are still effective as a deterrent to kids vaping on school property and that has value. Deputy Day reported approximately 3 citations in BPHS since the beginning of 2020 - 2021 school year.

Discussion on Zyn pouches: Mr. Shaw reported that some kids are using Zyn pouches to wean off of vapes. Zyn pouches reportedly do not contain tobacco and do not have the mouth and throat cancer risk associated with chew/smokeless tobacco, and cardiovascular risks associated with cigarettes and vapes. Ryan Grove validated that NRT and Zyn are not perfect but they are harm reduction strategies and harm reduction is a noble goal. Mr. Shaw talked about tobacco as a cultural norm, when parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents all use tobacco kids see that and it makes it normal. Students need to see tobacco as not the norm. Mr. Shaw supported tobacco

prevention efforts that focus on the financial and health costs of tobacco. Task force members support the smokefree campaign celebrating smokefree indoor air so that kids grow up to see that as a norm. Ryan Grove would support a smokefree indoor air town ordinance. This task force can consider making that a goal, after assessing community readiness and capacity at the town government level.

Joey reported on current Dimensions quit group successes and challenges. We plan to train Dimensions graduates to co-facilitate future groups. Trisha and Mr. Shaw will talk about getting Skyline teachers and para-professionals trained as Dimensions facilitators as Skyline kids may relate better to their teachers than to Joey and Trisha (Whatt?? Not possible.) Ryan Grove suggested training athletic program coaches.

Goal update: Given that vape detectors have presented challenges, and we have no 2020 data from the PNA, we discussed changing Goal #1 to read:

Decrease number of school incidents involving all tobacco products, by June 2024.

Trisha will check with the school admin to learn what data they keep, over time.

Next task force meeting: April 8, 2021.