

WESTERLY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
23 Highland Avenue
Westerly, RI 02891
Health & Wellness Sub-Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 31, 2022

4:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order
D. Bowdy called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Present in addition to D. Bowdy were A. Storey, J. Perrin, K. Wetherill, C. Howard, M. Herard, C. Speranza, K. West, C. Santilli, A. Gervasini, A. Goethals, J. Aldrich, H. Kane and B. Ferrol.
2. Approval of Minutes from 3-22-22
A. Storey made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by J. Perrin. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment
No one came forward.
4. Food Service Report
M. Herard discussed the summer lunch program dates, times and locations for all children ages 18 and under. She also mentioned that June is the last month for free meals for all students, unless they otherwise qualify for free or reduced lunch.
5. Westerly Prevention and Wellness Partnership Report
A. Iadevaia was not present at the meeting. See page three of the minutes for her report.
6. Old Business
 - a. Project Aware end of year report
B. Horton and K. Wagner gave an overview of the grant and shared their goals. They also reviewed the Nathan Bruno Act and available trainings. Discussion ensued.
 - b. Recess Rocks training
K. Wetherill explained the Recess Rocks program. Discussion ensued.
 - c. Planning for school year 2023
A. Storey listed the following topics to discuss during school year 2022 - 2023: PD for Health educators, update of health standards, mental health support for students and staff and mentoring programs with VAASA.

7. New Business

None

8. Future Agenda Items

Continuity of communication between all staff members and families, hand washing, access to mental health counselors during the school day, possible mini food pantry at WHS.

9. Other

J. Perrin made a motion to adjourn at 5:50 pm, seconded by A. Storey. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane C Bowdy".

Diane Chiaradio Bowdy, Chair
Health & Wellness Subcommittee

Westerly Prevention and Wellness Partnership Report

- -Recently attended the Pawcatuck River Duck Race at the end of April and ran out of handouts/giveaways within an hour and a half (before ducks were dropped!)
- -Drug take back day was also on duck race day (April 30th) and we had giveaways available at the police station- 4,325lbs was collected across the state that day
- -Planning for attendance at both the Washington County Fair this summer and the Charlestown Seafood Festival as part of South County Regional Coalition
- -We (south county regional) are in the process of finishing up our needs assessment and will be moving forward based on community level needs
- -Working on planning our next mental health event (looking at doing something over the summer and outdoors)
- -Looking at what evidence based programs will be good to offer in Westerly - looking to offer a Marijuana Prevention program in middle and/or high school and coordinate with student assistance counselors to implement (due to recent legislation on legalization in RI)
- -Looking to add a couple new members to our coalition (specifically in business and healthcare sectors)