

WESTERLY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
23 Highland Avenue  
Westerly, RI 02891  
Health & Wellness Sub-Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, October 4, 2022

4:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

D. Bowdy called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. Present in addition to D. Bowdy were A. Storey, M. Herard, K. West, A. Goethals, B. Ferrol, G. Price, S. Ljungberg, L. Cugini and S. Adams.

2. Approval of Minutes from 5-31-22

A. Storey made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by A. Goethals. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

No one came forward.

4. Food Service Report

M. Herard discussed the following topics: local farms and fresh produce, national school lunch week and free and reduced meal applications.

5. Westerly Prevention and Wellness Partnership Report

A. Iadevaia was not present at the meeting. No report.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

a. Administration of Medical Marijuana

A. Storey reported that medical marijuana has not been approved by the FDA yet. Until that happens or regulations change, school nurses will not be permitted to administer medical marijuana to students who are prescribed.

b. Continuity of communication between all staff members and families

A. Storey explained that WPS strives to make sure that all school staff members are in constant communication and on the same page.

c. Hand washing

A. Storey reviewed hand washing protocols at each building level.

- d. PD for Health educators
  - A. Storey met with PE District Dept Head S. Scott to identify the areas in which the department would like to receive professional development in. This work will continue throughout the year.
- e. Recess Rocks training
  - Elementary schools will participate in Recess Rocks training starting on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

8. Future Agenda Items

Discuss lunch buddy system and continued ongoing discussion regarding mental health issues and awareness.

9. Other

Next meeting December 6, 2022

10. Adjournment

S. Ljunberg made a motion to adjourn at 5:10 pm, seconded by L. Cugini.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



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)