

## Family Life Advisory Committee Monday, April 17, 2023 6:30 PM

## **MINUTES**

Location of Meeting: Carson City School District 1402 West King Street

**Present**: Sheila Story (Chair), Stephanie Cook (parent), Dan Thornton (parent), Linda Lawlor (parent), Kyndra Jones (parent), Stella Thornton (student), Christine Sylvester (parent), Ronni Galas (Carson City Health and Human Services), Ann Dankworth (medical), and Cheryl Macy (district office).

- 1. Adoption of the agenda, as submitted **for possible action (public comment will be taken prior to any action).** Mr. Thornton motioned, Mrs. Cook seconded, to adopt the agenda with the removal of item #4. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Approval of the FLAC minutes from March 20, 2023 for possible action.

As noted in the November 28, 2022 minutes, the Making Proud Choices curriculum video "Birth Control Methods and Options" labels the morning after pill as birth control, and the committee had approved this video with the caveat that it be explained that the morning after pill is scientifically not categorized as birth control. Discussion around this in the March 20, 2023 meeting centered around Plan B and a Supreme Court Case. Mr. Thornton noted that the drug that was addressed as being in front of the Supreme Court is mifepristone, which is *not* the morning after pill as had been previously discussed in a prior meeting.

Mrs. Sylvester noted that this confusion illustrates the importance of more education on these topics and that her preference would be that the asterisk remain with the explanation that the curriculum reflects the FDA definition. Mr. Thornton explained that he would have voted on the video differently had he understood the definitions better. Mrs. Lawlor suggested that the committee agendize the clarification of the asterisked comment. Mrs. Lawlor motioned, seconded by Mrs. Dankworth, to approve the minutes from March 20, 2023. No public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Update on the Plan B Birth control method by Dan Thornton – for discussion only



Mr. Thornton distributed the handout "Plan B One-Step (1.5 mg Levonorgestrel) Information" by the FDA. As noted in agenda item #1, the committee had recommended the Making Proud Choices curriculum video "Birth Control Methods and Options" with the caveat that it be explained that the morning after pill is scientifically not categorized as birth control. Since then, we have learned that the FDA states that Plan B is a "backup method" taken after sex and as such should not be used regularly. It can take up to five days for the sperm to fertilize the egg, which is why it is considered a form of birth control.

- 4. Update on "5<sup>th</sup> grade Boys Hormone Education " Sheila Bridges, BSN, RN Orvis School of Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Student **for discussion only** This item was removed from the agenda, as Mrs. Bridges has changed her doctoral project.
- 5. Preview and Possible Action of the following educational material for the Female External Reproduction system **for discussion and possible action.**

Female Reproductive System, Internal and External Organs produced by acog.org/Womens Health, ACOG, 2022

<a href="https://www.acog.org/-/media/project/acog/acogorg/womens-health/files/infographics/femalereprosystem-print-013122.pdf?la=en&hash=535266875D3428D4FF2C1981F9EFDCB9">https://www.acog.org/-/media/project/acog/acogorg/womens-health/files/infographics/femalereprosystem-print-013122.pdf?la=en&hash=535266875D3428D4FF2C1981F9EFDCB9</a>

Ms. Thornton indicated that she likes the variation of images. She also noted that having the pictures in black and white can represent a diverse population. Mrs. Story indicated she thought this would be a usable resource for teachers, and Mrs. Sylvester noted that the source is credible. Discussing what grade levels are appropriate, Ms. Thornton noted that middle school would be appropriate, and Mrs. Sylvester noted that in middle school is when students need to learn how to use a tampon, making this the appropriate age for this resource. Mr. Thornton noted that accurate knowledge and vocabulary is important to help prevent abuse, as abusers tend to rely on misinformation. After reviewing the standards, Ms. Thornton noted that grade 4 Nevada Academic Content Standards for health states that students will "[i]dentify the body parts of the human reproductive systems using correct anatomical terms."

Mrs. Lawlor stated that she would like to think about it more before approving this material for elementary school. Mrs. Dankworth explained that the video we already use for 4<sup>th</sup> grade serves the standards well. Ms. Thornton stated an option is to find another set of diagrams for 4<sup>th</sup> grade and noted the importance of teaching children about what is normal. Mr. Thornton explained that a previous presenter had taught the committee that children who know the appropriate vocabulary are less likely to fall victim to predators. Mrs. Jones shared that there are plush vulvas that can be used to teach the body parts. Mrs. Story will look into different options.



Mrs. Cook motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jones, to approve Female Reproductive System, Internal and External Organs produced by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, 2022, for middle school and up. No public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Female Reproductive System by Dr. Mike, 2021 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPvqphgIYXE

The committee watched the video. Mrs. Story said it was a good visual of both the internal and external anatomy. Mrs. Dankworth asked what Dr. Mike's background is. The group researched and found that he has a PhD in Anatomy and Physiology. Mrs. Sylvester noted that the video uses technical terms without much explanation. Ms. Thornton likes the video and explained that teachers could expand upon the terminology with another video. Mrs. Cook stated she thought the video was easy to follow while also sharing details. Mrs. Story stated it would be a good review for teachers. Mrs. Dankworth stated the video would be best for high school because of the intellectual content. Mrs. Cook believes it could be paired with the handout reviewed just before this video. Ms. Thornton stated a middle school teacher could make that judgement. Mrs. Sylvester stated that this might be too much content in one short video for middle school. Mrs. Lawlor stated that the terminology might cause middle school students to shut down, but that it could be approved for both levels providing teacher choice. Mr. Thornton reminded the group that that the task is to create a toolbox teachers can use.

Mr. Thornton made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Cook, to approve "Female Reproductive System by Dr. Mike, 2021" as presented on his YouTube channel for grades 6 and up. Mrs. Sylvester stated she is still on the fence about it because the target audience is not middle school. Mrs. Lawlor stated that she doesn't think the video targets middle school, but she doesn't see it as harmful. She went on to explain that students will shut down because of the elevated vocabulary, and at the same time, she is willing to keep it on the table for a teacher who might have a class that is ready for this material. No public comment. The motion passed 4-2.

6. Public Comment – Comments will be accepted in person, or virtual participate on via Zoom using the link provided above. Comments may be made by members of the public on items pertaining to the Family Life Advisory Committee. Note, Public Comment will be taken on items marked "for possible action" before action is taken on such items, and members of the public are encouraged to comment on such items at the time they are being considered. Speakers are instructed to limit their comments to no more than two (3) minutes regardless of whether the comments are made in person or through virtual participation.

Ms. Thornton shared that she and Mrs. Cook presented on AB 357 concerning the Family Life Committee law, family life content, and giving students a vote on family life advisory committees. Mrs. Cook noted that people in the community believe that Planned Parenthood is

involved in our committee and that we "teach abortion." Mr. Thornton noted that this bill is in the top ten in the number of comments of all bills submitted as of this date. Mrs. Dankworth noted that when this committee started many years ago, Planned Parenthood was one of the few resources available and that we now have more resources.

Next Meeting Date: May 15, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.

\*Action may be taken on any agenda item unless noted "for discussion only."\*

The agenda of this meeting has been posted at the following locations: 1) School Administration Office, 1402 W. King Street; 2) District Website: <a href="https://notice.nv.gov">www.carsoncityschools.com</a>; 3) State of Nevada website: <a href="https://notice.nv.gov">https://notice.nv.gov</a>.

Carson City School District is pleased to provide accommodations for individuals with disabilities. If you have a disability, please let us know and we will provide assistance or accommodate you in any way that we possibly can.