

Group 1 and 6 Healthy Eating At Schools Program Delivery and School Policy

Date of Meeting: Dec. 2, 2009

Facilitator: Rose Soneff and Estelle Dufresne

Attendees:

Brandie Marcon	Sydney Massey	Sarah Carten	Kerri Gregory	Pat Zellinsky
Cathy Richards	Crystal Dow	Kathy Romses	Denise Weber	Estelle Dufresne
Rose Soneff	Nita Abbi	Eileen Bennewith	Susan Ross	Zena Simces
Simone Jennings	Sherri Ogasawara			

Regrets: Kathy Cassels , Mary Clifford, Ruth Hellrud-Brown, Julie Stephenson

1) What are the priority actions to be taken?

Key Points and desired outcome	Potential Action
<p><u>Strategies for Priority Action:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a school curriculum that supports Healthy Eating School Policy across the spectrum from healthy eating to food production. • Incorporate Social Marketing messages into school curriculum. • Clarify Health Authority (HA) role, establish accountability measures or healthy eating targets. • How can targets in the Core Model Program’s Performance Plans for Food Security and Healthy Living be more accountable and have targets related to provincial level goals? • Scan degree of implementation of Guidelines. Identify success factors in the schools. • Need simple impact evaluation and monitoring to support implementation of School Guidelines. • Work at all levels of the school system, locally, SD-wide, regionally and provincially. • (Additional input from Northern: Support infrastructure development and regional engagement for Far to School, the Fruit and Vegetable Program and other existing programs (DASH) that have a proven track record to encourage healthy eating and active living) • (Additional input from Northern: More public education so that parents are demanding and supporting healthy eating environments in schools - a provincial newsletter to go to all schools in BC) <p><u>Issues:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disconnect between the work done by Community Nutritionists (CN) to provincial initiatives 	<p>Curriculum Development</p> <p>Identify Social Marketing Messages and format Link HA CORE Model Performance Plans for Food Security and Healthy Living to provincial healthy eating goals. Develop scan of <i>Guidelines</i> implementation.</p> <p>Develop simple evaluation and monitoring tools.</p> <p>Identify other political players, champions at varying levels,</p>

<p>and expectations or plans of HA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little accountability at school or school district level for nutrition goals. Better accountability with dedicated staff like Healthy Schools Coordinators or Superintendent are in place. • Changing priority in schools and loss of key champions affects momentum and buy in to guidelines which are not necessarily applied equally. • (additional input from Northern: What do we have to offer our French Immersion Schools?) 	<p>including Min of. Ed., Min of HL and Sport and cultivate their leadership on topic.</p>
<p>2) What are the ways we can integrate our work?</p>	
<p>Key Points and desired outcome</p>	<p>Potential Action</p>
<p><u>Strategies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect and partner with existing infrastructure and expand on those named in (Oct 27) proceedings. • Draft a “Health Promoting Schools Policy” for increased buy in, involvement in planning and participation of other sectors. Recognize their expertise, issues and needs. A policy that can be adopted at a provincial/ministry level to enhance accountability. e.g. Report “What Does it Take to Make a Healthy Province” was explicit about the necessity of strong policy. • Healthy Schools funding has supported the use of Appreciative Inquiry as a tool to develop integrated plans. In addition, schools participating in the Network for Performance-based Schools can receive funding for a school-based project. • Advocacy or political lobbying needed at a higher, or senior, level • Change “School Guidelines” to “Policy” so that they are mandatory not voluntary or short term. <p><u>Principles:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champions within system better than outsiders giving direction. • Rural and remote schools should have equal access to resources to be able to adopt guidelines. • A guiding health imperative must guide all policy. • A strong provincial policy imperative rather than adopting some successful but “soft” SD policies. • Suggest integration so that partners and other players advocate for HE. <p><u>Issues:</u></p>	<p>Identify and connect with broader ranger of champions and outside of HE (Min of Ed, Mental Health, and Physical Activity) to participate in a forum.</p> <p>Develop a Health Promoting Schools (Umbrella) Policy, which would help integrate work.</p> <p>Lobby for funding that is sufficient to cover dedicated human resources (HS Coordinators, district staff or access to CN)</p> <p>Identify ways, especially secondary school students to be involved.</p> <p>Suggest that funding at Min. of Ed is re-allocated if this is a priority.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciative inquiry is great but needs supports for what has been done so that wheel is not re-invented. • Difficult for schools to keep HS coordinators in place. • Disconnect between vision and resources on the ground. • (Additional input provided after call: Even if guidelines are changed to policy, it does not mean the schools will change. Need to support the schools to use a school-centered approach to overcome barriers) 	<p>Recommend School Guidelines as policy and mandatory.</p>
<p>3) What are the next steps to keep the momentum in this category going?</p>	
<p>Key Points and desired outcome</p>	<p>Potential Action</p>
<p><u>Strategies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host forum with schools to connect, identify successes, ways to collaborate and develop policy. • Formally recognize the schools and SD that are doing well with strong media focus. (Additional input from Northern: Sustain their efforts by offering additional resources) • Communicate importance of a Provincial Health Promoting School Policy • Ensure policy is linked to funding needed for implementation. • Build on momentum of ActNow BC. • Use ED INFO as a communication tool to get information out on policy, health, healthy improvements. • Provide input into larger platforms. • (Additional input from Northern: Ongoing funding opportunities are key to keep the momentum going, especially for those schools that have yet to jump on the band wagon. 	<p>Identify interest level for a multi-stakeholder forum.</p> <p>Find out the results of LINK Audit to inform decisions</p> <p>Lisa Forster-Coull to be champion and conduit to premier.</p>
<p>4) What role or commitment can you offer?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNC School Age Committee to advocate for change in wording of School Guidelines to School Policy. • Sydney willing to participate in drafting a series of letters to Ministry and Lisa. Iterated the two strong message from the report: guiding policy drives the work and strong leadership is required. Eg, praise ActNow BC and how it has been a good use of money to date. 	<p>Committee could craft letter. Do Brand Name Food List survey.</p> <p>All participants willing to continue for now.</p> <p>North HEAL School Model is</p>

- Kathy Cassels – DASH has an ability to access schools through the Healthy School Network (HSN) and disseminate information through our School Health Network database (which includes our HSN members) these may have a potential to support integrating work and keeping momentum going
- Denise Weber, interested in supporting the planning for ongoing work, possibly, mapping, or a plan that encompasses all interest areas. Re-affirm vision as a first step to setting priorities. Advocate for role and resources. Small amount of money available for DC for this support.
- Kathy Romses has a Healthy Schools Committee which has multi players and is working well. Potential model to use.
- (Additional input from the North: HEAL Schools Model.)

something they plan to discuss in January as a part of moving forward with the HEAL Network. This could easily be a working group within HEAL or supported solidly by HEAL Resources. We have a regional lead in School Nutrition – therefore can contribute to information sharing to other dietitians in the North and provide leadership in tool development and dissemination. Work to develop better relationships with Schools.

Rose will distribute minutes of today’s meeting. Please share.

Next Meeting. Group 1 and 6 Healthy Eating At Schools Program Delivery and School Policy, Wed. January 6, 9:30 am to 10:30 am PST

1-866-596-5278 Conference ID: 2331822 RSVP to Brandie Marcon at Brandie.Marcon@interiorhealth.ca

Please provide Rose Soneff, rsoneff@bc.cancer.ca your contact info, if you have not already done so, to be added to distribution list.