

Board of Health Meeting
August 12, 2019
Town Building – Board of Health Office

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. present were John G. Schuler, M. D. (JS), Robert DeFrancesco, D. M. D. (RD) and Brian McNamara (BM), also present were Julia Junghanns, (JJ) Director of Public Health, Ruth Mori, MSN, RN, (RM) Public Health Nurse/School Nurse Leader and Patti White Department Assistant.

7:00 p.m. Public Comment - there were none

7:05 p.m. Address increased staffing needs at Claypit Hill Elementary School – proposal to add one full-time Community Health Nurse (30 hours at Claypit Hill and 5 as floater)

RM: Recap of discussion from last Board Meeting provided as to the need for an additional Community Health Nurse at Claypit. Ruth worked with Dr. Soslow in obtaining additional data as requested that is being presented tonight. This includes looking at students who have utilized 240 minutes or greater of nursing time this past year and then reviewing each student's file to determine what their needs were. They were then categorized into topic headings that best describes the issue. This included chronic illness, acute medical condition and social/emotional conditions. Another report shows the various chief complaints that students had when coming into the health room. Some of the chief complaints are labeled as one thing (such as hunger) but it also may be the student needing to check in with the nurse rather than truly being hungry. Wanting to review if this is considered a one school year situation, I looked over the years from 2014 and show the differences between the elementary schools. Claypit overall has more nursing activity going on than the other two elementary schools for some time. There is a great need for case management and this is different from a typical sub nurse position. The level of parental and physician discussion has really been greater at this school. There is a difference in looking at health care, numbers do not represent the full picture (quantity vs quality) and everything needs to be well documented. This consumes a lot of time and is not really quantified in the reports that we are able to obtain. Population of each student for Claypit is 500-600, HH is less than that and Loker is about nearly 300.

JJ: We want to ensure that the Claypit CHN is supported with what she needs to do her job and meet the needs of the school, we feel this additional support is needed. This is important, and as a town we are responsible to ensure there is adequate nursing support to meet the needs of the school.

Brian- where would floater be? RM: We are seeing an increased need for the middle school but this CHN could go wherever the greatest need is that week, this will also assist as there are screenings being done year round. Brian- finances/budget? JJ: Our sub nursing budget was increased to allow for hours at CHS so some of that money will be put towards the full time nurse. The balance is for coverage for sick/ personal time for the nurses and to assist with screenings. Required to do vision and hearing testing and notify family for follow ups.

BM: Motion to vote to increase the Community Health Nurse at CHS from 1 to 2, 30 hours at CHS and 5 hours floating at other schools. Vote 3-0 all in favor.

Next meeting Aug 26 or September 9th or 16th? JS not 8/26 BM ok for 26th not 9th. Touch base with Dr Soslow and Susan and will finalize date

8:00 p.m. BM: motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted
Patti White
Department Assistant
081219minutes

