

MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
CHOCONUT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MEETING DATE SEPTEMBER 8, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Chris Caterson
President, Board of Directors

Mr. Michael F. Ognosky
Superintendent of Schools

Health Advisory Council Meeting

September 8, 2009 Health Advisory Council meeting began at 7:00 PM in the Faculty Room at the Choconut Valley Elementary School.

Board Members Present: Doug Wilcox, Gloria Smith and Mary Homan

Administrators Present: Mike Ognosky

Committee Members Present: Jean Hollister, Judy Ochse, Emily Perkins

Visitors Present: Bill Host, Amy Lyden and Trish Brown

I. Old Business:

- ✓ **October 2009 In-Service Day:** Mrs. Hollister reviewed the plans for the October 2009 in-service day. Our first speaker of the morning will be Bill Lewis, a local financial planner. Bill will discuss "financial wellness" and such topics as estate planning, financial strategies to ensure a successful retirement, etc. In the morning session Bob Hollister, a local attorney, will discuss such topics as living wills, establishment of trusts, health care proxies, etc. In the afternoon session, Leif Winters from the local Farmer's Market will discuss the pluses of eating organic and the availability of organic foods in our local market. Mrs. Hollister has also contacted Rebecca Cole, a massage therapist in the area, and she will be our concluding speaker of the day.
- ✓ **H1N1 Update:** Mr. Ognosky distributed with the agenda recent communications received on 9/3/2009 from the Department of Education and Department of Health. The first was a parent letter which will be tailored to the Montrose Area School District and distributed to all of the students in the district to be taken home. The letter discusses the current status of the H1N1 virus and plans that may be implemented by the state in the future. Second, a letter to the teachers will be distributed by the nurses in each building explaining the role of the classroom teacher in assisting in the situation. Finally, the Department of Health has issued a "Top 10 Tips for Preventing the Spread of Flu" and that will be distributed along with the parent letter. Mr. Ognosky explained that the Montrose Area Junior-Senior High School has been established as a potential site for the community distribution of the vaccine should the state move in that direction. A discussion was also held regarding the current procedures in place to provide for the cleaning of common areas (desks, keyboards, locker handles, etc.). Mr. Ognosky will review those procedures with Mr. Clapper who, in turn, will also review them with his custodial staff.
- ✓ **Elementary School Based Behavioral Services:** Mrs. Ochse explained the status of the School Based Behavioral Services programs that will begin in the elementary schools on September 30th. The program has been implemented in a few urban school settings in the state and this will be the first opportunity for such a program in a rural school setting. The teams for each school have been selected and everything is in place for the program to begin on time.

II. New Business

- ✓ **Substitute School Nurses:** The school nurses present asked that the district advertise for the services of substitute school nurses. Currently, there are only two substitute nurses available for service in the district and they both have limited availability. Mr. Ognosky will advertise in the local papers immediately.

III. Open Forum: The following items were discussed in the open forum segment:

- ✓ **Head Lice Update:** A question was asked of the nurses regarding the current status of the treatment of head lice in the district. As of today, there have been four cases of head lice discovered this year – all at the Choconut Valley Elementary School. Mrs. Ochse discovered those cases on the first day, they were treated and there has not been a reoccurrence. The nurses outlined for the group the steps they have taken and will continue to take in working with families in this situation.
- ✓ **Student Insurance:** Mr. Ognosky explained that the District has entered into an agreement with a different insurance carrier this year that provides secondary insurance coverage for all students in the district while they are at school, traveling to and from school in school vehicles, and participating in school sponsored events. More information will be forthcoming shortly from the business office in regard to the actual coverage stipulations and the procedures that will be put in place to process claims. That information will be disseminated to the nurses as soon as it is available. The information will also be placed on the district web page.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mike Ognosky

Mike Ognosky, Superintendent