

# CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2005

Attendees: Committee Members  
Marilou Brodie, Sue Chambers, Charlotte Davis, Blair Dean, Martha Hiett,  
Suzanne McCarthy, Kathy McFetridge, Connie Meeks, Rosemary Rodibaugh,  
Rhonda Sanders, Susanne Tullos

Staff  
Mary Gaither, Nancy Green, Ann Thompson

Absentees: Bobbie Davis, James Fasules, Martha Phillips

Next Meeting: Friday, February 18, 2005, 9:00 a.m.  
Room 800, Freeway Medical Building  
5800 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Little Rock

Chair Martha Hiett called the meeting to order. Minutes of the January 21, 2005, meetings were approved. Martha announced Dr. Ken James had been notified of Steve Singleton's resignation.

Mary Gaither informed the Committee of a fact sheet in their packets regarding "School Changes since BMI Implementation".

Martha Hiett also informed them of an article in their packets that was published in the Houston Chronicle entitled, "It's gut-check time for body mass index testing." The article focused on a high school football player from Warren, Arkansas. The committee discussed the difference in overweight and over-fat. They agreed that the "Toolkit for Parents" contains good information to help parents understand BMI screening.

Suzanne McCarthy reported on a meeting she, Martha Hiett and Rhonda Sanders had with Senator Kim Hendren to help him understand the health consequences of childhood obesity. As a result of this meeting, Senator Hendren agreed that he would not run his bill to repeal BMI.

The draft bylaws were discussed. A motion was approved to adopt the bylaws by deleting "a minimum of" from paragraph IIA, adding in parenthesis after IIA4 (the official title is Arkansas Academy of Family Physicians) and deleting "with the approval of the committee" from paragraph IIG. Suggested changes will be made and emailed to the committee for review prior to the March meeting. The bylaws will be voted on at the March meeting.

The Committee discussed the need for additional representatives from the educational community. Discussion followed regarding adding this representation to the Key Resources Group. They also discussed the possibility of granting voting power to members of the Key Resources Group. Martha Hiett advised that she would request a legal opinion from Robert Brech on voting power for Key Resources Group Members. A motion was approved to contact each of the following organizations and ask them to designate a representative to serve on the Key Resources Group:

## CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2005

- Elementary School Principals Association (Wanda O'Quinn currently serves)
- Middle School Principals Association (Joe Don Parris currently serves)
- Secondary School Principals Association (Danny Spadoni currently serves)
- Rural School Administrators
- State School Board Association (Dan Farley)

It was agreed that officials would be made aware of the existing Key Resource Group Members representing their organizations. Martha Hiett said she would check on paying expenses for Key Resources Group Members. There was discussion regarding members that do not attend.

Suzanne McCarthy gave a BMI report. She said that eight percent of schools had already sent their information to Fayetteville. She advised that many schools had their weights and measurements completed before they received the labels and there had been no difficulty with the process.

Tammy Harrell reported that a person in North Carolina showed her legislation patterned from Act. 1220 and told her that some of the Committee's work is being used as an example.

Rhonda Sanders reported that she, Martha Hiett and Bobbie Davis met to try and determine if the Committee should make recommendations regarding vending machine reporting. She also reported that this group recommends a subcommittee to determine what information would be useful. A motion was approved to establish a subcommittee consisting of Child Health Advisory Committee Members, principals and other appropriate representatives to develop parameters/guidelines for reporting, to the Committee, relating to vending machines, that is required by Act 1220. Upon approval by the Committee, the guidelines would be submitted to the Board of Education to promulgate into Rules and Regulations. Initial volunteers for the subcommittee are: Martha Hiett and Rhonda Sanders. Martha Hiett said she would get together with Rhonda, Bobbie Davis, and other education representatives that Bobbie might request to work on the guidelines. She said they would report at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Martha Hiett reported that Martha Phillips is Chair of an Education Resources Subcommittee that is gathering information on other reporting, and that she will report to the Committee at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

There was discussion regarding refining the current recommendations and/or making new recommendations. Sheila Brown advised that March 4<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for written comments on "Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Certification and Continuing Professional Development of Child Nutrition Directors, Managers, and Workers." She said those rules would be voted on by the Board of Education on March 14<sup>th</sup>. She advised that the Recommendations on Nutrition and Physical Activity would be presented to the Board of Education at their March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and a public hearing date and written comment period would be requested. Martha Hiett suggested that the Committee obtain the proposed Rules and Regulations on the Recommendations for Nutrition and Physical Activity that are presented at the March 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting and discuss them at the Child Health Advisory Committee meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

## CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2005

Martha Hiett said she would report on and have available copies of the summaries of the local Healthy Arkansas Plan at the next meeting.

Nena Sanchez shared with the Committee a survey that has been conducted by Medicaid and tools that been offered to Primary Care Physicians and the community.

The Committee divided into the Nutrition and Physical Activity Subcommittees. After the Subcommittees met, they reported back to the full Committee

Blair Dean reported for the Physical Activity Subcommittee. She said they discussed continued research for pilot schools to study interventions such as integrating the recommendations into the school curriculum. She said that is already possibly being done by Dr. Judy Weber and the Subcommittee would like to provide assistance to her and share information about her project, and identify ways they could support her important work and explore ways to partner to convene the school model programs. She said she had been informed that there is a possible grant for piloting schools that fall in the 40 percentile of overweight or at risk for overweight. It was agreed that if Dr. Weber were preparing the grant proposal, Martha Hiett would invite her to the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Rosemary Rodibaugh reported for the Nutrition Subcommittee. She said they looked at the draft for “Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Certification and Continuing Professional Development of Child Nutrition Directors, Managers, and Workers”. A motion carried to submit the following comments to the Board of Education:

6.01 The Committee supports 12 hours of continuing education would be an optimal number of hours for workers who directly handle food. This recommendation was based on approximately two (2) hours for each of the following topics:

- Basic Sanitation
- Food Safety
- Basic Nutrition
- Food Preparation
- Nutrition & Physical Activity Concepts for Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle

However, a minimum of six (6) hours would be acceptable, based on local school district capabilities and constraints.

6.03 This item was not in the original Child Health Advisory Committee Recommendations and the provision of training is addressed in 6.02.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.