

May 19, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Senate Bill 283 became effective on September 1, 2009 and specifies a minimum of five members to be appointed by the school district board of trustees to our local School Health Advisory Council (SHAC). The council is required to meet at least four times per year. Appointed council members are as follows:

Ronnie Pewitt	Parent	Co-chair
Tammy Pewitt, LVN	School Nurse	Co-chair
Lisa Blevins	Parent	
Teresa McBride	Parent	
Dale Carmichael	Parent	
Robin Carmichael, RN	School Nurse	
Shannon Saylor	High School Principal	
Austin Garza	8 th grade student representative	
Courtney Andrews	11 th grade student representative	

In addition to the above members, the food service director, physical education teachers, and campus and district administrators attend SHAC meetings. The PISD School Health Advisory Council was established during the 2005-2006 school year and collaboratively works on areas such as Wellness policies, Health education curriculum, School menu/nutrition services, Physical activity requirements, and Health issues.

Besides requiring the board of trustees to appoint at least five members to the SHAC with a chair or co-chair position filled by a parent, SB 283 also requires the SHAC to submit a written report explaining their activities during the prior 12-month period to the board of trustees.

SB 283 also requires a school district, before each school year, to provide written notice to parents of the board of trustee's decision regarding if the district will provide human sexuality instruction to students. The SHAC discussed the PISD curriculum and concluded the courses which have human sexuality instruction at the Intermediate School are the 4th grade girls' puberty talk and the 4th grade boys' puberty talk and lessons taught in the *Great Body Shop* curriculum in Health/PE. Also, Paradise ISD may offer an assembly on making good choices if there is sponsorship for a presenter. If an outside presenter is brought to the district, parents will be given advance notification with options to remove students from any part of this program. Students will not be subjected to any disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction imposed by the district or the student's school when parents opt-out their child from these programs.

Parents and guardians with questions on basic content or requests to review the curriculum materials of any of the programs listed above are encouraged to call the campus administrator at 969-5032 or Nurse Robin Carmichael, RN at 969-5053 or Nurse Tammy Pewitt LVN at 969-5042. Senate Bill 283 authorizes a parent to use the grievance procedure adopted under Section 26.011 concerning a complaint of a violation.

Opportunities for parental involvement are available by attending SHAC meetings, assisting at health screenings, etc. For more information go to www.pisd.net and view SHAC under Public Information.

Sincerely,

Terry McCutchen
Principal, Paradise Intermediate School