



WA HEALTH PROMOTING
SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION (INC.)

Supporting Student Health

www.wahpsa.org.au

Minutes of the General Meeting

Date: Tuesday 13th June 2017
Time: 3.30pm - 4.30pm
Venue: Cancer Council WA
15 Bedbrook Place, Shenton Park

Chairperson: Sally Blane
Minute Secretary: Scarlett Duncan

Meeting opened at 3.30pm

1. Welcome and Apologies (1min)

President welcomed members and office bearers.

Present:

Office Bearers:

President:	Leisha Aberle	(Foodbank WA)
Vice President:	Sally Blane	(Cancer Council WA)
Treasurer:	Phoebe Joyce	(Mentally Healthy WA)
Secretary:	Amanda Ferguson	(WA School Canteen Association)
Committee Members:	Ruth Wallace	(Edith Cowan University)
	Miranda Chester	(Foodbank WA)
	Marcelle Coakley	(Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation)

Executive Officer: Scarlett Duncan (CERIPH)

Attending/Members:

Deborah Gordon (Bladder and Bowel Health Australia), Sharelle Tulloh (Sexual Health Quarters). Anita Stepan (Kidsafe WA)

Apologies:

Maryrose Baker (WA Health), Sue Dimitrijevic, Suzi Barnes (Mt Lawley SHS), Rebecca Stewart (Holyoake), Gael Myers (CCWA), Trevor B (Department of Transport), Pheobe Joyce (Act-Belong-Commit), Leisha Aberle (Foodbank WA).

1. Acceptance of Previous Minutes (1 min)

Motion to accept the Minutes of the General Meeting on 10th of May 2017 by Marcelle Coakly and seconded by Amanda Ferguson.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the General Meeting on 22nd of March 2017 by Amanda Ferguson and seconded by Miranda Chester.

2. Business arising from previous minutes (5 min)

2.1 WAHPSA Survey is to be closed as the data is currently being entered. The data will be used to build on the strategic plan.

2.2 Mandurah Schools Conference: Inaugural conference with 18+ Schools in Mandurah attending (11, 000 teachers, school staff, education assistants). Applications to present have closed and organisations should be expecting to hear back in the coming week.

Opportunity to have a display stand closes Friday 16th June.

3. General and other business (10 min)

3.1 Maryrose Baker from Sexual Health and Blood Borne Viruses has notified WAHPSA that they are looking for a Schools Education person to work on their team. The job will be advertised soon.

4. Executive/Presidents report (10 min)

4.1 The last meeting held at Cyril Jackson Senior Campus was a great success, following the breakfast meeting a number of agencies have become members, including: Holyoake, Helping Minds, Sports Challenge WA, DonateLife, and Bladder and Bowel Health Australia Inc.

4.2 Finances: The 2 year membership appears to be popular with several agencies choosing this. If your agency has not paid your invoice then please do.

5. Hot Topic

Health and education sector collaboration - how do you engage schools in your health program?

This discussion aims to share the experiences of schools and health agencies in delivering health promotion programs.

Discussion points will include:

- Barriers and enablers of successful collaboration
- Effective communication with schools
- How to develop relationships with schools and their staff
- Understanding the core business and operational context of schools.

Hot topic discussion 13 June 2017

Health and education sector collaboration - how do you engage schools in your health program?

This discussion aimed to share the experiences of schools and health agencies in delivering health promotion programs.

Barriers to engaging schools include:

- Lack of budget allocation/funding in schools. Health is often combined with the PE budget, which may mean that PE equipment and resources take priority.
- Health education often has a lower status or importance in schools over PE and other learning areas

- Teacher skills, knowledge and confidence may be limited or need improving with health content, especially for sensitive topics
- ATAR Health Studies course for years 11 and 12 is still new and has limited supporting resources for teachers.
- Time allocation for health education is limited. Recommended time allocations can include PE with health
- Teachers/schools may not be aware of the agencies, support and resources that are available.
- Schools may pay for a health 'expert', but this does not guarantee their qualifications or quality. However, schools may not value free advice or services.

Enablers - what helps school health programs

- Collaboration with other agencies, including sharing of ideas and cross promotion to schools
- Issues that are linked with student learning have a better up-take. For example, hungry students or those with a poor diet may not learn as effectively, meaning that providing a nutritious breakfast provides health and education benefits.
- Having a mandated policy on an issue, for example, the Healthy Food and Drink Policy has ensured schools have an obligation to ensure that nutrition standards are met. Health issues without a policy requirement may not be seen to be as relevant
- The support of the principal is needed to ensure a program's success
- Having a school champion who is personally committed and passionate is an asset (but they can be difficult to identify)

Tips for communicating with schools

- Find a leader or champion in the school
- Use case studies of what other schools are doing
- Information dissemination needs to be electronic and hard copy
- It can be difficult to get information past the front office and to the correct person
- Consider timing of communication. Phone calls at 3pm on a Friday will not be well received. There are certain times of the day and times of the term that may be more appropriate. If a teacher contacts you, get back to them quickly, while you still have their attention
- Be brief and to the point in all communications
- For bulk email communications, consider personalising information. Be aware of servers blocking your emails. Sending emails to less than 50 recipients and after school hours is recommended by the Department of Education.
- Spend time updating contact details in your own databases. This ensures that the information is still going to the right person.

Tips to engaging schools include:

- Be reactive to issues being discussed in schools. For example, recent discussions on '13 Reasons Why' provided opportunities to discuss the issues raised in this TV series.
- Be familiar with the WA curriculum. Mapping resources to the curriculum will help. Most concepts can be made to fit the curriculum somewhere! Having curriculum tasks that include an assessment task will be popular.
- Plan communications or promotions to fit in with teacher planning. Many teachers plan during the last two weeks of term for the following term's work
- Provide free resources/programs/advice
- Engage with newly qualified teachers. They are hungry for resources and are keen (but may lack the influence to implement whole school changes)
- Provide templates/resources/information. Save schools time in developing their own. Make it easy/easier!
- Provide different ways for schools to engage with programs. For example, have classroom based and whole school initiatives.

6. Organisational updates and networking

6.1 Organisational updates can be sent to Scarlett at wahpsa@gmail.com
 We encourage all members to update us on their programs and send through any new information they would like added to the website.

7. Meeting Close

8. Next meeting

Wednesday 2nd of August
 3.30 - 4.30pm
 Cancer Council WA
 14 Bedbrook Place,
 Shenton Park WA

Meeting Closed 4.35pm