



TPAUD Coalition Meeting

November 12th 8:00am

Trumbull EMS

Attendees: Weston Bartosik, Alexa Bembnista, Nina Chanana, Jennifer Ellyson, Leigh Goodman, Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Scot Kerr, Reshma Kode, Cat Lamy, Melissa McGarry, Cornelia Morris, Giovanna Mozzo, Kiersten Naumann, Victoria O'Neill, Joanne Orenstein, Jessica Samuolis, Julia Saunders, Sabrina (Brie) Seymour, Vicki Tesoro, Stephanie Vaughn, Lara Walden

1. Introductions & Partner Updates

- a. Cornelia reported that a JRB Coordinator has been hired and will be organizing a new board over the next few months.
- b. Glorious Recovery –Alexa Bembnista would like to co-sponsor a Color Run with TPAUD next spring; Joanne Orenstein indicated the YMCA would be interested in co-sponsoring. Also, Alexa is working with her employer, Sikorsky/Lockheed Martin, for Sikorsky to become a Recovery Friendly Workplace. Alexa spoke about the benefits to employers to be recovery-friendly.
- c. Transgender Awareness Week: Nov. 13th – 20th

2. THS 9th Grade Forum Review: The coalition had a lengthy conversation about and review of the Forum, which took place on Wednesday, Nov. 10th. Multiple observations and suggestions were made and will be considered by the Forum Committee for next year. Most importantly, the coalition would like to see increased involvement from high school administration and district leadership in the planning, implementation and review of the event.

3. Current Prevention Efforts

- a. Collaboration with schools: At TPAUD's previous meeting with Dr. Semmel he asked us to list our top three priorities for collaboration with Trumbull Public Schools, in alignment with District Goals. The Executive Committee, TPAUD staff and coalition members suggested those priorities be: curriculum inclusion (e.g., Senior Seminar), LGBTQ support/trainings, and school climate/student connectivity.
- a. Youth Advisors – mental health resources in school: TPAUD and a subset of Youth Advisors met with Dennis McLaughlin to discuss publicizing mental health resources in the high school. Stickers with resources and a QR code that lands on the Resource page of the TPAUD website will be placed on all student handbooks, which will be distributed during Advisory on Nov. 17th. Dennis McLaughlin tasked the Youth Advisors with suggesting updated and revisions to the School Supports page on the THS website. The next Youth Advisors meeting will be on Sunday, Dec. 5th at Trumbull Congregational Church.
- b. Planning for 2022 "Let's Talk Mental Health", Trumbull's Monthly Speaker Series continues. This series is a collaboration between Trumbull EMS, the Counseling Center, PTA Council, and Confidante Health. This series will offer videos/webinars covering topics around mental health, available therapeutic options, parenting, etc.
- b. "You Think You Know" counterfeit medication campaign: website is live; billboards/bus signage rolling out statewide

- c. Library Resource Center: the library is finalizing book selection and purchasing; additionally, TPAUD is purchasing books that are unavailable on the library's purchasing site
4. Coalition Business
 - a. CT Assoc. of Prevention Professionals Sector All Star Award to Lara Walden and Wes Bartosik: Wes and Lara Walden were presented with a Coalition Sector All-Start Award by the Connecticut Association of Prevention Professionals for their commitment to prevention and their work on the "Positive Choices, Healthy Kids" videos. Congratulations!
 - b. Student Surveys: during Advisory on Wed., Nov. 17th.
5. Narcan training – Leigh Goodman trained participants in Narcan; all participants received a free Narcan kit from The Hub

2021-22 Coalition Meeting Dates: Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9, Apr. 13, May 11, June 8

Upcoming Events:

- November 17th – Student Surveys at THS