

**MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**CHOCONUT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**MEETING DATE APRIL 26, 2010, 7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Doug Wilcox  
President, Board of Directors

Mr. Michael F. Ognosky  
Superintendent of Schools

Health Advisory Council Meeting

April 26, 2010 Health Advisory Council meeting began at 7:00 PM in the Faculty Room at the Choconut Valley Elementary School.

Board Members Present: Chris Caterson, Gloria Smith and Mary Homan

Administrators Present: Mike Ognosky and Betsy O'Malley

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

I. Old Business:

- ✓ **October 2010 In-Service Day:** Mrs. Hollister reported that she has already arranged for one of the speakers for next October. She has a number of others available and will work at completing a morning program for the staff. Mr. Ognosky will then review the Safety program in the District with the entire staff during the afternoon session.
- ✓ **Elementary School Based Behavioral Services:** Mr. Ognosky and the elementary nurses, Judy Ochse and Emily Perkins, updated the group on the status of the SBBH programs in both of the elementary schools. The programs currently service 21 students in the District with full 24 hour 7 day per week wrap around family services. They both applauded the work of the groups centered in each of their schools and related stories of the efforts that have been made by members of the SBBH staff in servicing the children. Mr. Ognosky explained that the next phase of that project, a school wide behavioral support program in both schools serving all of the students, will begin its initial phase this week with the training of MASD employee teams in each building.
- ✓ **Substitute School Nurses:** The school nurses reiterated their need for additional nurses in a substitute pool and requested that the district consider an increase in the daily pay of \$80-\$85 currently. They feel that may attract more nurses into the substitute pool. Mrs. Hollister also suggested that Mr. Ognosky contact the local hospital and ask if they have any nurses on staff that would like to fill their off days by making themselves available for substitute work in the school buildings. Mr. Ognosky will discuss this with hospital administration. Also, Mr. Ognosky will discuss the substitute status at the other county school districts as well in order to ascertain how they handle the scheduling of day to day substitute nurses in their buildings.

II. New Business

- ✓ **Revised School Nutrition/Food Services Policies:** Members present were provided with copies of revised Policies 808 (Food Services) and 808.1 (Free Reduced Price Meals and Free Milk) that are currently awaiting a second reading and final approval by the board in May. Ms. O'Malley (Food Service Director) reviewed the policies with the group and received input from members present. Mrs. Hollister felt that the emphasis on the National Standards need to be reemphasized with the staff as she has noticed an increase in the number of non-nutritional snacks being offered at school parties, etc. Mr. Ognosky will emphasize this at the administration meeting on Wednesday. There is also a letter that Ms. O'Malley has that provides awareness of the Competitive Food Standards for parents. Ms. O'Malley will provide Mr. Ognosky with a copy of that letter for distribution.

- ✓ **2011 Immunization Requirements:** The nurses present emphasized that the new immunization requirements have still not been acted upon by the legislature. They have been ready for such action now for almost two years, but the legislature has declined to move forward. All is ready when they are finally put in place.
- ✓ **Recruitment of New Members:** Mrs. Hollister reminded the committee that there is a need for a student representative. Also, she asked if Mr. Ognosky would check with current members regarding their ability and willingness to continue on the committee. Mr. Ognosky will do so and then seek new members if they should be required.

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

- ✓ Mrs. Smith brought up a concern regarding the dry hands condition she as noted in her own children due to the increased emphasis on the washing of hands in school. Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Ochse both discussed the hand soaps being utilized and asked if consideration could be given for a more delicate soap rather than the current industrial soap being provided.
- ✓ Mrs. Smith also asked Ms. O'Malley if she was familiar with the current television series featuring Jamie Oliver and the "Food Revolution" in which he encourages the "healthy" feeding of our students in the nation by school lunch programs. Ms. O'Malley discussed many of the initiatives she has put in place at the high school with the alternative salad line and the vegetarian choices now being offered.
- ✓ Mrs. Ochse discussed the current concern in the county regarding the number of school aged children that are not covered by insurance. She discussed the CHIP program and how there is an increased emphasis by the county health officials to get children without insurance enrolled in the program. CHIP providers have offered to come into the schools in order to assist in that enrollment process.
- ✓ Mr. Ognosky asked the school nurses if they have noticed an increased absenteeism in the schools as a result of H1N1. It had been predicted last fall that there would be an additional wave of H1N1 in the spring. The nurses have not seen an increase in absenteeism in their buildings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

*Mike Ognosky*

Mike Ognosky, Superintendent