



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HEALTH ADVOCATES

FACT SHEET

...Our health link to elementary schools

Historical Background: School Health Programs Department initiated the position in 1990 to create a way of communicating and disseminating information between SHPD and elementary school sites to increase awareness and access to health programs and services.

What is the goal of the Elementary School Health Advocates?

The goal is to increase school site capacity to address the health needs of students in a holistic, comprehensive manner.

What is a Health Advocate?

Each elementary school is represented by a credentialed teacher whose role is to liaison between the school site and the School Health Programs Department, and to assist site staff with delivering the health education curriculum, increasing awareness and implementation of health related policies, procedures and activities. Health Advocates meet regularly with SHPD staff to receive professional development on health-related issues and are introduced to community based organizations which offer health-related services, presentations and materials to elementary schools. Health advocates are selected on the basis of a written application with approval of the site administrator. They receive compensation for coordinating activities on site, disseminating health related information, data collection and attendance at meetings.

Activities within SFUSD and School Health Programs Department that support Health Advocates:

- Comprehensive School Health Programs
- Health Education Teacher Leaders
- Support Services for Sexual Minority Youth
- Expanded Learning
- CBO Orientation/Speakers List

For further information contact:

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