

**School Health
Advisory Council
(SHAC)**



Rusk Independent School District
Vision Statement, Mission Statement, Bylaws

SHAC Approved: January 4, 2017

Rusk Independent School
District (RISD)
School Health Advisory Council
(SHAC)

Vision Statement

All RISD students will reach their full personal, health, and academic potential.

Mission Statement

The mission of the RISD SHAC is to ensure that all children in the RISD, grades PreK-12, will have healthy bodies and minds through sequential health education, practices, and modeling of good health behaviors.

Goal

The goal of the RISD SHAC is to advise RISD decision-makers regarding students' needs and assets related to health knowledge and skills, regarding policies and procedures that impact student health, and regarding the health of the school environment. See TAC Education Code 28.004(a) for specific objectives and duties assigned.

Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)

School Health Advisory Council Bylaws

Article 1: Authority

Section one: Statute and Policy

Each school district in the State is required in Chapter 28, Subchapter A-K, and Chapter 38.013 of the Texas Education Code, to establish and maintain a district level school health advisory council. The School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) of the Rusk Independent School District (RISD) is specifically authorized by the Board of Trustees in District Policy.

Section two: Limitation

The SHAC shall be an advisory body, and shall serve to provide guidance, recommendations, and other assistance to the Board of Trustees as is specifically listed in state law and District policy. The SHAC shall have no power to expend public funds, enter into contracts, or otherwise place obligation or liability upon the district.

Section Three: Bylaws

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees, upon the advice and counsel of the SHAC, to establish and amend the Bylaws.

Article II: Responsibilities

According to the state law, District policy, and the direction of the Board of Trustees, the SHAC shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. To hold regular meetings.
- B. To meet periodically with the Board of Trustees.
- C. To provide advice and recommendations/counsel prior to decisions pertaining to the areas of health education curriculum appropriate for specific grade levels and may include a coordinated school health program designed to prevent obesity, cardiovascular disease, and Type II diabetes through coordination of: health education, physical education, nutritional services, parental involvement, staff wellness, environmental health, mental/emotional wellness, and health services.

- D. To consult regularly with the superintendent and his/her administration regarding planning, implementation, and evaluation of the district coordinated school health program.
- E. To approve the district coordinated school health program, subject to adoption by the Board of Trustees.
- F. To consult with the Superintendent and his/her administration in advance of submitting issues, concerns, reports, and recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
- G. To advise and consult with the district in the development of a comprehensive health education curriculum.
- H. To provide a written annual report to the Board of Trustees on or before June 30 of each year.

Article III: Meetings

Section One: Regular Meetings

The SHAC shall conduct a minimum of 4 regular meeting per year (by-monthly). If a meeting is cancelled, all attempts will be made to reschedule for another day during the month; however, if the meeting is not rescheduled, there will not be a make-up meeting scheduled. The regular meeting in August shall be considered the first meeting for the year.

Section Two: Public Hearings

Public hearings and other meetings with the public will be coordinated through the SHAC Coordinator.

Section Three: Open Meetings

All meetings of the full SHAC shall be open to the public, and the public shall have reasonable opportunity to provide comment. The chair may limit the time given to speakers. Committee meetings may be open to the public at the discretion of the Committee Chair.

Section Four: Quorum

A quorum shall be the majority of the current membership. Meetings may still be held without a quorum for purposes of presentations or discussion. However, no actions or voting may take place without a quorum.

Section Five: Attendance

Member attendance shall be monitored by the Chair, who shall work with members to try and resolve any attendance problems. Non-attendance for three consecutive meetings within a one-year period may result in removal. Members are encouraged to contact the Chair or the Coordinator if they know they cannot attend a meeting.

Section Six: Decision-making

Members shall attempt to reach decisions by consensus. However, if a clear consensus cannot be obtained, members shall reach a decision by majority vote. Each member shall be entitled to one vote per item. Proxy voting and absentee ballots shall not be permitted; a member must be present to vote.

Section Seven: Agendas

Agendas shall be provided for all full SHAC meetings. Agendas items shall be determined by the Chair in consultation with the Coordinator.

Article IV: Membership

Section One: Membership Criteria

The membership composition of the SHAC shall comply with the following:

- A. Parents must live within the district, and must be a custodial parent or guardian of a student currently enrolled in a district school.
- B. The majority of the SHAC will consist of parents of students currently enrolled in the District, who are not employed by RISD.
- C. Members may also represent one or more persons from each of the following groups: teachers, administrators, district students, health care professionals, business community, law enforcement, senior citizens clergy, and nonprofit health organizations.
- D. A minimum of two high school and/or Jr.High students from RISD may serve on the committee.
- E. Membership of the SHAC shall strive to reflect the geographic, ethnic, gender and economic diversity of the District.
- F. The Superintendent or designee may serve in an ex-officio (non-voting) capacity.

G. A representative of the Board of Trustees may serve in an ex-officio (nonvoting) capacity.

Section Two: Terms of Service

The term of service for an appointment shall be two years, normally beginning the first SHAC meeting August. Terms will be staggered to maintain continuity on the SHAC. Parents and community members will serve a two-year appointment. Campus level staff and students shall serve a one-year term. Members may serve multiple terms.

Section Three: Confirmation by Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall appoint all members of the SHAC to finalize the original setup and organization of SHAC.

Section Four: Vacancies

The Board of Trustees delegates to the SHAC Committee, pursuant to Article IV, Section Three of these Bylaws, the responsibility to fill vacancies after the Board has appointed the SHAC membership.

Section Five: Conflict of Interest

No individual shall be nominated for or hold a position on the SHAC if that individual has a direct pecuniary interest in the recommendations of that committee and decisions by the Board of Trustees. Even the appearance of a conflict of interest should be avoided if at all possible. A lone agenda item shall not be cause for the elimination of an individual's membership; however, any such individual shall refrain from participation in decisions and voting as to that issue.

Section Six: The Role of the Superintendent

The Superintendent and SHAC will work cooperatively. The Superintendent will ensure staff support as is necessary and reasonable and will participate without vote in the deliberation and activities of SHAC.

Section Seven: Role of the Board Representative

The role of the Representative of the Board of Trustees is to observe without vote in deliberations and activities of the SHAC. The Board Representative may actively participate in discussions by providing guidance as may be appropriate and by responding to questions to the best of his/her ability. The Representative will provide updates, verbal or written, to the Board

as requested; however, these updates shall not supplant the annual report of the Board of Trustees.

Section Eight: Size of Council

The SHAC will consist of no more than 20 members and no less than 5 members.

Article V: Officers

Section One: Terms of Service

The SHAC shall elect a Chair, vice-Chair, and Secretary, each to serve a two-year term. Officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Officers will be selected in May or June and installed at the first August meeting of the SHAC. No officer shall be an employee of RISD.

Section Two: Responsibilities

A. The responsibilities of the Chair shall be to:

- Preside at all meetings of the SHAC.
- Appoint committees as necessary.
- Serve as ex officio member of all Committees-without vote
- Work directly with the Coordinator to compile agendas for all meetings of the SHAC.
- Perform other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the SHAC, which are in accordance with SHAC's authorizing statute, direct policy, and direction of the Board.

B. The responsibilities of the Vice-Chair shall be to:

- Preside at SHAC meetings in the absence of the Chair.
- Serve as ex officio member of all committees without vote
- Serve as Chair-elect.
- Perform other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the SHAC, which are in accordance with SHAC authorizing statute, District policy, and direction of the Board.

C. The responsibilities of the Secretary shall be to:

- Preside at meetings when both the Chair and Vice-Chair are absent.
- Work with the Coordinator to prepare meeting notices, minutes, and

arrange the location of the SHAC meetings.

- Perform other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the SHAC, which are in accordance with SHAC's authorizing statute, District policy, and direction of Board.

Article VI: Coordinator

The Facilitator of Health Education or Director of Health Services shall serve as the Coordinator for the SHAC. Responsibilities of the Coordinator shall include:

- A. Ensuring that adequate facilities arrangements and staff support are secured for all meetings.
- B. Providing members and support staff with agendas and background materials prior to meetings.
- C. Serving as custodian of all SHAC members.
- E. Informing the Chair of member vacancies and attendance problems.
- F. Provide staff support in the development and submission of SHAC's annual report.
- G. Informing the Chair and General Counsel of possible member conflicts of interest.
- H. Providing such other assistance as requested in accordance with the SHAC authorizing statute, district policy, and the direction of the Board of Trustees.

Article VII: Amendments

Section 1: The bylaws may be amended, repealed or added to, or new by-laws may be adopted by a majority vote of a quorum at a meeting duly called for the purpose according to the articles or by-laws.

Article VIII: Communications

Section 1: Any internal or external communication shall be reviewed and disseminated through the Rusk ISD office via mail, email, fax, telephone or by any other means.