

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALTH
SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION #16-02

RE: RESOLUTION 1) ENCOURAGING SCHOOLS WITH GRADES 6 THROUGH 12 IN SPOKANE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY EVERY TWO YEARS; 2) ENCOURAGING SCHOOLS TO USE THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE FORM OF THE HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY THAT INCLUDES ALL OPTIONAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION FOR 8TH, 10TH, AND 12TH GRADE STUDENTS; AND 3) REQUESTING SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN SPOKANE COUNTY TO ADOPT POLICIES REQUIRING MANDATORY PARTICIPATION OF SCHOOLS USING THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE FORM OF THE HEALTH YOUTH SURVEY.

WHEREAS, assessment is a core function of public health; and

WHEREAS, public health officials are responsible for monitoring health status to identify and solve health problems in communities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health Governance Responsibilities include Organizational Excellence, with the specific responsibility to ensure use of scientific information by district administration, staff and Board of Health to guide decision-making and the use of scientific information is relevant to all Governance Responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, one of the ways that public health is able to monitor health status is through the collection, analysis and interpretation of data from rigorous surveys; and

WHEREAS, the primary source of consistent, quality data about the health and well-being of adolescents in our community comes from the Healthy Youth Survey; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy Youth Survey is administered every other year in October to students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy Youth Survey is administered to ensure anonymity; and

WHEREAS, survey results can be used by schools, public health and other social service providers to identify student needs, learn the prevalence of health-related behaviors among students, help plan for and evaluate science-based prevention and health promotion services and programs, and guide policy development to support healthy adolescence; and

WHEREAS, participation in the Healthy Youth Survey is voluntary on the part of schools that are not selected as part of the county and state sample; and

WHEREAS, the survey results are most useful when they are used to address the needs of specific schools; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy Youth Survey has an optional questions related to sexual behavior, sexual abuse and sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, a number of schools in Spokane County opt not to include the optional questions; and

WHEREAS, the optional questions can provide useful information for how and where to target appropriate interventions for preventing pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and other concerns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health

1. encourages all schools with grades 6 through 12 in Spokane County to participate in the Healthy Youth Survey every other year in October with all students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12;
2. encourages schools to use the most comprehensive form of the Healthy Youth Survey that includes all optional questions related to sexual behavior, sexual abuse and sexual orientation for 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students; and
3. requests school districts in Spokane County to adopt policies requiring mandatory participation of schools using the most comprehensive form of the Health Youth Survey.

Signed this 26th day of May, 2016 in Spokane, Washington.

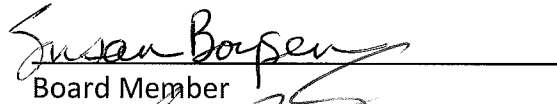
SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH



Board Member



Board Member



Board Member

Board Member




Board Member

Board Member



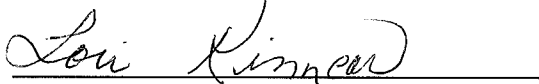
Board Member

Board Member



Board Member

Board Member



Board Member

Board Member