

Sexual Assault and Abuse Prevention and Awareness

Westbrook Public Schools
Parent Forum
October 26, 2017

Tonight's Panel

- Esther Bobowick, Educational Consultant CES
- Pat Ciccone, Westbrook Superintendent
- Seana Nygard, Grade 1 Teacher
- Marilyn Brown, Daisy School Psychologist
- Dana Runkle, Middle School Computer Technology Teacher
- Allison Carr, High School Health Teacher
- Madeline Illinger, Director of Special Services
- Shannon Murphy, Westbrook Youth and Family Services
- Daryl Tetreault, State Police Troop F

The Statistics

- In Connecticut, 14% of residents report that they have personally experienced childhood sexual assault
- Nearly 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 14 boys has been a victim of sexual abuse in our state
- 1 in every 7 of those victims was under the age of 6
- In cases of childhood sexual assault 93% of victims know and trust the perpetrator
- Perpetrators are not always adults. Approximately one third of sexual assault perpetrators are under 18
- 80% of women and 30% of men with intellectual disabilities have been sexually assaulted. 50% of those women have been assaulted more than ten times
- 50% of transgender people experience sexual violence in their lifetime
- 1 in 4 women and 1 out of 6 men are sexually abused in their lifetime
- Nearly 6 out of 10 sexual assaults occur in the victim's home or the home of a friend, relative or neighbor
- 13.3 percent of college women say they have been forced to have sex in a dating situation
- Only 28 percent of victims report their sexual assault to the police

The Statute

Statute: Connecticut General Statute (C.G.S) 17a-101q requires that age-appropriate educational materials be designed for students “in grades PreK to twelve, inclusive, regarding child sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention that may include, but not be limited to, (a) the skills to recognize (i) child sexual abuse and assault, (ii) boundary violations and unwanted forms of touching and contact, and (iii) ways offenders groom or desensitize victims, and (b) strategies to (i) promote disclosure, (ii) reduce self-blame, and (iii) mobilize bystanders.”

State Task Force: The outcome of the state force was to produce the Statewide K-12 Sexual Assault and Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program Guidelines (available on the sde website)

The Collaborative Process at Westbrook

- **Board of Education Policy 5145.511** (September 2016)
- **Focus Groups - MS/HS and Elementary** (January 2017)
 - First review of the standards and expectations
 - Discussed how to best deliver the lessons at each grade level
- **Writing Groups** (February -June 2017)
 - Identified the most age-appropriate standards for each grade level
 - Created lessons and created/acquired materials for each lesson
- **District Staff Survey** (March 2017 and May 2018)
- **Teacher Awareness Training** (June 2017)
- **Parent Input Meeting** (July 2017)
- **Parent Forums** (Fall 2017)
- **Implementation of Pilot Curriculum** (2017-2018)

Our Pilot Year

- How did we get from the guidelines to lessons?
- What are the themes at each level?
- Who is delivering the lessons and when within the school day will they be delivered?
- What resources are being used?
- What if students need more support?

Community-Based Support

- What types of support are available from family and youth agencies?
- What types of support are available from the local police department?
- How will community-based agencies and the Westbrook school system work together to support students?

Questions & Answers

Additional Information

The following resources can be found on the Westbrook Public Schools Homepage under Community Resources - Health Curriculum Addendum.

- Westbrook Sexual Assault and Abuse Prevention and Awareness Curriculum Summary
- Statewide K-12 Sexual Assault and Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program Guidelines