

Minutes: OrOHC K-12 Committee Meeting 3-5-2021

Laurie Johnson introduced the K-12 website and asked for recommendations: <https://healthyteeth.us/>

A thank you to **Melissa Garza-Schmidt** for sharing information about the Healthy Kids Outreach Program. She also suggested that the K-12 Committee create a Facebook page. **Laurie** will work on that and invite members to “like” and/or “follow” the page.

Thank you to **Amy Umphlett** for giving us the following information on the OHA:

Spotlight Segments

- **Karen Phillips** has been hosting regular, brief Spotlight Segments on topics pertaining to certified school dental sealant programs. The presentations are intended to be a helpful review and include updates to relevant topics.
- The webinar recordings and PowerPoint presentations of the Spotlight Segments are posted online under the ‘Webinars & Training Resources’ subheading at www.healthoregon.org/sealantcert.

OHA COVID Guidance Document Updates:

- The OHA Guidance was last updated on September 24, 2020. Since then, the CDC, OSAP and OSHA has come out with more guidance that is specific to school oral health programs.
- We have revised the guidance documents and submitted them for review by Senior Health Advisors as part of the emergency response. Once approved, they will be posted online under the ‘Dental Providers’ subheading of OHA’s COVID-19 Healthcare Partner Resources [webpage](#).
- **Karen** mentioned some of the changes in the February 26th Spotlight Segment. There was some reordering in the guidance and additions include:
 - Creating a process for responding to a COVID-19 outbreak at a school or amongst dental health care providers
 - Eyewear guidance
 - Universal use of four-handed technique and high evacuation suction when performing aerosol generating procedures (AGPs)

Temporary Certification Rules for School Dental Sealant Programs

- The certification rules for school dental sealant programs (OAR 333-028) need to match the OHA COVID-19 guidelines.
- Temporary rules will be in place during the COVID-19 pandemic, but can only be effective for 180 days. Temporary rule language is now under review by the Department of Justice and should be effective soon. The temporary rules will get us to the end of the school year.
- We know that some of the rule changes should be made permanent, which will require OHA to go thru the normal rulemaking process to amend the OARs. OHA plans to hold a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) post-legislative session to look at permanent changes.

Dental Director Recruitment

- The Dental Director position, which has been vacant since mid-March 2020, was on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic and financial uncertainty for the state budget. Agencies, including OHA, placed a temporary hold on hiring, which initially affected the Dental Director position. However, OHA made the decision to prioritize the position during the hiring freeze and included the Dental Director in the Executive Budget. As a result, OHA received permission to begin the Dental Director hiring process.
- It was initially posted [online](#) on January 21, 2021.
- OHA started the first round of interviews with four candidates last week and this week.
- OHA’s hiring process will include engaging with stakeholders who will provide input into the candidate selection. OHA is still working out this process and will be shared within the next few weeks.
- The position is open until filled.