Author's response to reviews

Title: Building school-based cardiovascular health promotion capacity in youth: a mixed methods study

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Revisions:

1. Grammar/spelling errors were corrected throughout the manuscript.

2. In the abstract we provided more detail on the Five Cs model of positive youth development (PYD) (lines 24-26). On line 36 we corrected how the PYD was identified.

3. We revised the section on Positive Youth Development (PYD) on page 5 (lines 84-85, lines 89-99). This included adding the following reference: Dzewaltowski DA, Estabrooks PA, Welk G, Hill J, Milliken G, Karteroliotis K, Johnston JA: Healthy youth places: A randomized controlled trial to determine the effectiveness of facilitating adult and youth leaders to promote physical activity and fruit and vegetable consumption in middle schools. Health Educ Behav 2009, 36(3):583-600.

4. In the methods section (page 7, lines 136-139) we provided a clearer description of the purpose of the quantitative and qualitative data.

5. In addition to smoking, physical activity and one outcome target (obesity), nutrition was also targeted in this study. We noted this on lines 34 (page 2), lines 105 (page 6), and 156 (page 8). Also in Table 2 one of the activities (Healthy Food Workshop) was directed at nutrition.

6. In the section, the HEART Intervention, we revised lines 176-177, page 9.

7. Lines 398-400 (page 18) reinforces that the class involved in the study stayed together and involved the same students over the two years of the study.

8. Changes were made to the discussion section were made (lines 419-420, 446-448, 459-461).

9. Future directions of the study were included (lines 492-495, page 22).