

District Green Committee

11/21/2017 (3:40 PLMS)

Members Present: Deirdre Abrams, Melissa Coriell, Sara Anderegg, Emily Beaver

Objectives:

- Discuss ecoliteracy implementation process
 - Review building green team responsibilities -- hand-out policy
 - Need farm-to-school follow-up
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1. **Ecoliteracy implementation Process-**

- Deirdre introduced resources from Idaho's Vision for Environmental Literacy:** A sustainable future depends upon people who understand the complex relationships between the natural, social, and economic systems that support us. Between 2009-2011 Idaho joined 45 other states in **developing an Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) that provides guidelines for implementing environmental education into academic settings to increase environmental literacy.** The Idaho Environmental Education Association received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2009 to spearhead development of a draft plan tailored to meet Idaho's educational needs. A diverse group of stakeholders, including staff from the Idaho State Department of Education, business, natural resource management agencies, higher education, nonprofits, Nez Perce Tribe and others worked together to ensure broad-based input into the plan. These stakeholders followed guidelines established by the [North American Association for Environmental Education](#). Currently components of the Idaho ELP are being implemented as part of the 3-year, 4-state *Educator to Educator Initiative for Student Learning: A Pacific Northwest Model for Collective Impact* initiative, funded in part by the EPA." <https://idahoe.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Proposed-Idaho-Environmental-Literacy-Plan.pdf>
- What is the best way to bring this into each building? Staff meeting?** Each representative will present framework to their staff at a meeting. It would be best if a staff meeting was devoted to reviewing the ecoliteracy framework, allowing teachers to work through it together.
- How do the building reps explain how it should be used? Common language for this.** Can we tie this in with the introduction of NGSS? Do we see the Ecoliteracy Framework as a supplementary document alongside NGSS? We begin using NGSS next year. Standards are being adopted in February. This document is a guide, a reference point, a continuum, K-12. Teachers will probably need examples of how other teachers of integrated concepts from this framework into their classes.

2. **Building Green Teams Responsibilities and Recycling**

- Hand out policy.** Each school needs to have a working green team that includes "representatives from administration, faculty, custodial and kitchen staff, students, as well as a member of the District Green Committee from that

school.” Email Deirdre the members of each school’s green team. It is up to each building team to get their school on board to work towards the four goals of the Green School Initiative: Teach, Learn, Engage; Healthy School Grounds, Healthy Food; Reduce Resources and Energy Consumption; Minimize Toxins. It was discussed that school green teams need the support of administrators in achieving these goals. School Green Teams must provide the district Green Committee with a narrative assessment of progress towards those goals.

b. **Current task for building green teams: Recycling. Brainstorm the following with teams:**

- **Recycling Containers coming in August (after board approval & city satisfaction of plan for).** Lakeshore will pay for the bins, about \$800 each. There appears to be some confusion as to whether city approval is needed to have a recycling container at each school. Deirdre spoke with Erin from the city, who asked Michelle Groenevelt, Economic and Development Director, and she confirmed that there is no approval needed for schools to place a container on the school properties in any location the schools sees fit. Will take about 16 weeks to be made and shipped. Each school will have to figure out what to do in the interim. DES has formed a committee at their school to brainstorm what to do with paper until then. It will probably be on a volunteer sign up basis for taking the paper to the recycling center once a week. City code regarding the containers:

http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/codebook/index.php?book_id=497&chapter_id=24715#s863621

- **How do we manage the area cleanup if needed? Sign: “School Use Only”**
- **Who will transport recycling from building to container? 5th graders & 6th graders? Custodians?** Deirdre talked to the custodian at BRMES; he said a parent volunteer is willing to pick up their recycling every Friday. He will help get it all together. Emily (PLMS) is using a white bus and taking recycling every week.
- **Who will call Lakeshore when the container is 2/3 full for pick-up? (FYI- 3 compartments)** Matt Hellhake makes the calls when containers are close to full. The system has been working great.

3. **Need Farm to School Mtg for follow up.** One idea from Mary and Deirdre: cut out corn dogs, hotdogs, and chips with the fake cheese and replace with something healthier. How can we help? Grass fed beef served in tacos on 11/7 and no one told us....kids didn’t even know. How can we change this?