

District Green Committee Minutes
October 30, 2019 (3:30 MDHS)

Melissa Coriell, Cheyenne Jedry, Matt Hellhake, Kim Thompson, Karla Eitel (guest), Sara Wolf, Erika Hoffman (student representative)

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1. Go-around to share thoughts: How are we doing?
2. Review of Green Policy- 10 minutes of reading and taking notes. Discussion of what we're doing and not doing in our buildings and in the district. How do we feel the Green Policy is being implemented or not?
 - a. Discussion points that were made:
 - **Teach, Learn, Engage**
 - is happening through MOSS at BRMES in some grade levels.
 - eco-literacy is happening in small pockets
 - getting there, but feels piecemeal
 - From student: biology is the only place you learn about ecological literacy, but policy asks for widespread participation which is very important
 - Policy suggests that the district "encourage the integration of ecological literacy into the K-12 curriculum where appropriate." Feels like this effort is led by individuals.
 - **Health School Grounds, Healthy Food**
 - Need more work in this area. Efforts have been made in the past with the procurement of local meat. How can we sustain such efforts? Need to get school gardens up and running. Agreed that healthy school grounds, healthy food should remain in the policy because it is about how we will use campus as a "learning tool to promote stewardship, good nutrition, monitoring and gardening skills and eco-design." Although the wellness committee is taking the lead on "healthy food" the green team should be helping to procure food from local producers and should be evaluating the school food program for "quality of nutrition."
 - Need a structure for the overseeing of environmental stewardship projects.
 - **Reduce resource and Energy Consumption**
 - Policy suggests that the "school community will be trained how to best use our systems and occupy our facilities." Need to look into possible training.

- Would like to see a school wide initiative to reduce energy and resource consumption. Maybe even start with the reduction of plastic.
 - What kind of assessment tools can we establish to measure consumption and waste? How can the staff be involved?
 - **Minimize toxins**
 - As far as we know, the maintenance staff has “implemented guidelines for purchase and cleaning” etc. Would like to see a copy of materials being used.
 - Maintenance manages temps.
 - Discuss which schools have a functioning green team- as a district member who are you representing and who are you reporting back to?
 - Faculty members (and sometimes students) are showing up to meetings but logistically difficult to get representatives from admin, custodial & kitchen staff.
- b. Recommendation to district based on review of policy: hire an environmental coordinator for the district.

3. NSF Grant (Karla)

- a. Karla provided an overview of the NSF project and grant proposal.
- b. Discussion of where the eco-lit framework coincides with the proposal.
- c. Discussion of what a collaboration would look like and what each of us could contribute to it. Thoughts...
 - i. Using local solutions to address problems
 - ii. Indigenous knowledge is often put to the side, need to bring to the forefront
 - iii. Working with schools to localize education: How can create better learning communities where students feel more connected
 1. Localize research questions.
 2. Land and social ecology
 - iv. Professional learning communities to meet monthly
 - v. Curriculum implementation/PD
- d. Discussion of what the green team and policy might get out of it as well. How could the green team bolster or guide the grant?

4. Brief discussion of city efforts to implement Climate Change Action Plan.