

ORSC Steering Committee Minutes
April 15, 2014 at 5pm Room 120 ORHS

Present: Brian Taetzsch, Leticia Denoya, John Carroll, Dennis Harrington, Ed Charle, Sarah Larson-Dennen, Mary Caulfield, Cyd Scarano, Cristina Dolcino, Emily Spognardi, Jim Rozycki, Maggie Morrison (late), Sue Caswell (late)

I. Call to Order 5:05 motion: Cristina second: Sarah

I. Welcome/Introductions- yes

II. Preliminary Actions

1. Approval of Agenda - motion: Sarah second: John

2. Approval of Minutes: March 26, 2014 meeting motion: Mary second: Cyd

3. Correspondence/News-

a. Local Energy Conference was attended by Cristina on 4/12/2014. Julia did an amazing job organizing the speakers and making the day so worthwhile and educational. A diverse group of attendees and speakers participated. Todd Selig presented and a ORHS student videotaped the conference.

b. "Local food teaching students' sustainability" article was in Foster's Sunday on 4-13-2014

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140413/GJNEWS_01/140419627/0/SEARCH

III. Public Comments- no public

IV. Old Business

1. Urgent Sub Committee work-

Dennis- Production Gardens Back Plan- almost complete and will give a long range view of the gardens in the District. The Back Plan is outcome oriented and not goal focused. The "Production Garden back plan" dovetails nicely with the Farm to School grant proposal that is going out in a couple of weeks- \$75,000 ("in-kind" match of _____). Sue C., Dennis, and Doris, have supported the amazing grant writers Jacqueline Bruhn and Karen Oshima. The submission deadline is within 2 weeks.

The next "production gardens" meeting (4th) is April 28th 6:30 to finalize plan and "attached" individuals to start working on initiatives. Announced in Fall 2014

2. Urgent Green Teams work-

MW- "The Power of Compost" School wide celebration - Thursday, April 17.

Costumes, rap song, Rian Bedard presentation to students, Sing Inch by Inch Song. Each MW Green Team member is working on the presentation, Paul Gasowski is video taping

John- "pee bus" - a converted trailer serves as a portable toilet to collect human urine with the goal of diverting liquid waste from treatment plants and instead using it as fertilizer. UNH students are working on this project. After EPA approval the urine

will be spread on local fields. Maybe the District (MS/HS) would be interested in educating the students about this useful nitrogen fertilizer and start a similar initiative? See link below of the UNH trailer:

link- <http://nhpr.org/post/unh-students-urine-diversion-program-cleans-water-fertilizes-farms>
<http://www.unh.edu/erg/unh-whiz-kids-launch-urine-recycling-project>

3. Report to School Board planning

Jim R. - has the electricity comparison from 2013-2014 through February 2014.

Focus on the energy that is saved since the cost of energy can change and we don't really have control once the price is set through the contracts

Natural gas is costing a bit more this year due to the long, cold winter.

Based on Jim's research: 295,000 KW or approximately \$41,504.89 was saved this year compared to last year

On the EPA.gov site you can see the savings (e.g., equivalent to XX trees saved)

Many things can affect electricity usage: fixture retrofits, weather/temperature, effects electricity,

Sue is working on a new program for the District that will allow more analyze

Having this data will tell us when we are "off track" and provide us a baseline for future decisions

Trash weights- Maggie "crunched" the numbers and there has been a reduction of weight

Key goals for presentation:

Overall: Be clear, minimum slides for home viewers, detailed, scripted presentation to avoid going over time, 5 minutes Q & A

Backup SB Packet: agenda, back plan, electricity data graph, Powerpoint slides/script, 15-20 minutes presentation total, Foster's article published on Sunday 5/2/14, K. Young's video (GT summary), EPA savings facts,

Order of presentation with approx. time allotment

1. John C - Opening intro. of 4-5 sentences- (intro slide) Why should we commitment to sustainability as a District?
2. Green Team leaders: topics-student involvement, collaboration, real data (power down), summary- 5 minutes (2 slides each green team leader)
3. Sarah - Gardens and Child Nutrition - 5 minutes school garden, classroom based instruction.... Child Nutrition work: the local food \$ was spent for the year by March 2014?, number of farmers producing for kitchen, increased student involvement numbers, Community Dinners, production gardens update
5. Shelley - UNH Interns (Brian, Leticia, Jeff) and initiatives
6. Cristina - Overall District Electricity Usage - decrease usage- graph

Wrap Up: Farm to School grant proposal, proposed "acceptance" of the Green Ribbons Schools pillars to help guide ORSC change, more UNH collaboration,

Community involvement and Collaboration, Response to Emerging Needs
(supporting others by adapting ones approach in ways that accommodate for individuals'
shifting and changing degrees of awareness/ learning/demands/preferences etc...)

V. New Business

1. Green Ribbon Schools Award quick update- A proposal is being made for the ORSC to use the information presented by the Federal government for The Green Ribbon Award to help guide work. ORSC is not applying for this award, but instead we are proposing to use the *Green Schools 3 pillars of best practices* to structure information and initiative ideas as stated in the charge given to us by the School Board. This topic will be discussed/voted upon at our ORSC full meeting on May 14th, 2014

VI. Public Comments- none

VII. Future Steering Meeting date

Wednesday. April 30th at 5pm at the OR High School

VIII. Future Full ORSC Meetings at ORHS Library:

~~Wed. Jan. 8, 2014 7pm Snowdate Jan. 9th~~

~~Wed. March 12, 2014 7pm~~

Wed. May 14, 2014 6:00pm Potluck and 7:00 Meeting at Moharimet School

IX. Closing Actions

- a. Agenda planning for next Steering Committee meeting- dry run though of the SB presentation. Pizza will be served this time ☺
- b. Agenda planning for May 14th, 2014 Full ORSC meeting
- c. Other

X. Adjournment 6:29 motion: Sarah second: Cristina