

ORSC Steering Committee Minutes-draft
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 5pm

Present: Mary Caulfield, Dennis Harrington, John Carroll, Brian Teatzsch, Sarah Larson-Dennen, Cyd Scarano, Cristina Dolcino, Mark Milliken, Maggie Morrison, Doris Demers, Sue Caswell, Matt James – UNH student, Jim Rozycki, Nell Neal

I. Call to Order 5:01 motion: Maggie second: Cristina

II. Welcome/Introductions – Matt James – UNH student – writing a paper for a journalism class.

III. Preliminary Actions

1. Approval of Agenda: Cristina added two items to the agenda
motion: Maggie second: Cristina
2. Approval of Minutes: Steering meeting Tuesday, January 22, 2015
motion: Sarah second: Cristina
3. Correspondence/News- none

IV. Public Comments- none

V. Old Business

1. Green Team Leaders Update-

- Mastway – UNH intern Latecia will present to the third and fourth graders on rain gardens. UNH docents talking to 1st and 2nd grades about water cycle. They are also collecting crayons and markers to be repurposed and recycled. Also a snack wrapper free day in planned.
- Cyd will be meeting with a Moh parent about Terracycle – a business who recycles hard to recycle products – wrappers, juice containers. Hoping this will be a part of the Earth Day celebration.
- Mary reported that the MS Student Green Bean club will be working with the HS Sustainability club during that week. The HS will visit the MS students during their lunch times to discuss Earth day topics with them. On Monday the topic to be discussed is - how to take care of the earth. Tuesday will be a trivia presentation w/ a few small prizes. They are hoping to encourage membership at the High School in future years by having the HS kids visit the MS. They are also collecting snack wrappers and encouraging a wrapper free day. Also, students will be encouraged to take a green pledge, wear green and they will be working on the mural in downtown Durham next to the Main Street Makery.
- High school will be visiting the Middle School. They will also be organizing an Earth Day Event, presenting a movie "Do the Math" Wednesday April 22 with a panel discussion afterwards. Several groups from the Seacoast community will also be having displays on hand to share with the students.
- Mary shared charts looking at Trash and Recycling data for the MS, MW and Moh. This data is gathered by Troyana. The high school is not included because it uses a different process – trash compaction. This trash is only picked up twice a year. The high School produces 100 pounds of compost a week as reported by Mr. Fox.

2. Discussion about next year's initiatives/projects for ORSC members

- There was a discussion amongst the Leadership committee to switch to Code-Access copiers to reduce paper waste and to keep confidential documents safe (IEPs). Administrators will support this and, Dennis proposed that green team leaders will educate teachers. Mark recommended gathering data on paper usage, recycling and trash to share with staff. An easy way to see what is happening.
- Budget – Sue reported there will be \$5,000 available for Educational Outreach for the 2015-2016 year.
- Maggie and Mary put together budget items for next year as well, Workshops, Films for outreach, professional development, HS Sus. Club and MS Green Bean club, Earth day celebration, recycling conferences. See attached.
- Sue suggested that the bus company is interested in incentives to get more students to ride the bus. Perhaps giving a ticket during Ride the Bus to School week and the winners could get a prize.
- Also, revisiting the No Idling policy – is it posted at the MS? Do we need to educate public?
- Middle School –filtration stations
- Mary and Cyd shared that Carolyn Eastman wants the group to look at how to integrate Green Learning into the curriculum. Could be a good year to work on this because the Next Generation Science Standards are being looked at and voted on this year.
- Train the adults/staff at the high school on Igor. Students training staff and new students.

3. Green Team Leaders –

a. What is working well?

- Solid growth at the HS – membership and very organized. Having a teacher and other adults helping has been very helpful. 15-20 student members.
- Team members meeting on a more regular basis. Communication has been good.
- Latecia (UNH intern) has been vital to help with educating students. She has connections at UNH which helps. Mary suggested that in the future the UNH intern needs to be involved in “teaching” these ideas and concepts.
- Custodial staff has been very accommodating to our initiatives. Jim shared that Jamie Pageau makes it a part of the custodian meetings and insists that be a priority. Eighteen members of the custodial staff. Jim will get Cristina the names of the staff.
- Bringing together the middle school and high school student clubs has been powerful. Jon Bromley has been an effective leader.

b. What could be changed?

- Initiatives brought to the Green Team Leaders from the teachers or Sust. Comm. make the work more focused. Wish that more teachers took advantage of the Leaders. Mark suggested that teachers sharing their experiences with other teachers is the most powerful way to get the word out. Green Team Leaders are there for teachers and they wish that teachers used them more often.

c. Green Team Leaders make-up for next year –

- Need to replace Cyd at Moharimet.

- Having a green team leader at the HS Sus club meetings is helpful. Perhaps next year Maggie and Mary be the only ones working at the HS?
- Maggie suggested that having someone with teaching experience replace Cyd is important. It adds so much to the Green Team Leaders make up.
- Cyd suggested that Moh needs its own green team leader and she'd like that person to continue the same work at Moh – being comfortable in the classroom with kids, running the maple sugaring program, sustainability topics in the classroom.
- Maggie shared that oftentimes it's difficult to get into the classrooms at other schools. She hopes this will change. Moharimet has Cyd's time with kids built into the school schedule that is why it is easier for the teachers. Teachers are not giving up their classroom time with kids to have a Green Team leader work with their students. It happens in the Encore rotation.

Cristina – proposed to the group that there be a green team leader hired by July 1 to work with Moharimet Elementary School. All in favor.

Sue Caswell will take care of discussing this with Shelley Mitchell and Teresa Proi at the SAU.

- Brian T. will be joining the group next year as a UNH intern.
- d. Identification from principals of their recommendations for next year's ORSC initiatives/projects for discussion at Full meeting on 5-13-15.
- Mark and Dennis will share what happens at the Sust. Comm meetings with the other principals.

4. Update of Foss Manufacturing "Plastic bottles collection project" – Nothing to report.

VI. New Business

- A. Develop topics and questions for May 13, 2015 full meeting regarding the management of the fields/land in the District.
- Jim will prepare this information for the May meeting. Herbicides used and maintenance of the grass. Perhaps looking at the care of grass fields compared to the care of an artificial turf field. UNH does a lot of testing on the water at Beards Creek and this effects the fertilizing used on the fields at the MS and HS. Jim will present it as where we were, what do we do now and what we will we do in the future. Jim mentioned that the District has only two groundskeepers. The rain garden would be a good thing to discuss (aka "bio-retention area").
- B. Crumb Rubber-
- John spoke to the crumb rubber topic recently brought up during the artificial turf discussion regarding the Warrant Article. John would like the group to be prepared to discuss the concerns if we ever do build an artificial turf field. One big concern of his is the problem with how to properly/ safely disposal of the material? One thing to also think about is what are the safe materials that could be used for the project?
- C. District of Distinction –
- Cristina shared that Dr. Morse is asking the group to apply for a District of Distinction award created by District Administration Magazine. An application needs to be filled out for this. Cristina will work on this.

VII. Public Comments- none

VIII. Select Future Full ORSC Meeting dates for 2015-2016 school year – Cristina will bring suggested dates for the 2015-2016 school year to the next full meeting.

IX. Future Steering meeting date- No additional meetings are needed before the large group May 13 meeting.

X. Closing Actions Possible agenda topics for the next meeting –

- How do we recognize the custodial staff (BBQ lunch during the workshop day?)
- Initiatives for next year
- Production garden for next year
- Foss update.

XII. Adjournment 7:03 motion: Cristina second: Sarah

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