

ORSC Steering Committee Minutes
Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 5pm ORHS Faculty Room

Present: Tracy Schroeder, Nell Neal, Maggie Morrison, Kristin Houle, Cristina Dolcino, Dan Klein, Sue Caswell, Dennis Harrington, Barry Kaplan, Sarah Larson-Dennen

I. Call to 5:05 motion: Cristina second: Barry

II. Welcome/Introductions

III. Preliminary Actions

1. Approval of Agenda: motion: Maggie second: Dennis

2. Approval of Minutes: Steering meeting Monday, March 14, 2016

 motion: Maggie second: Tracy All approved.

3. Correspondence/News- The Community Wellness District Dinner with vendors was attended by Maggie where she shared the tri-fold information. Approximately 100 people attended. Cristina also shared that she attended the tour of the Oyster River Array on Packer Falls Road in Lee. She also attended a Solar 101 Workshop presented by Andy Duncan. Both events were sponsored by the Durham Energy Committee and Lee Energy Committee as well as other local area energy groups.

There will be a meeting on Saturday, June 11th of "like minded" organizations in the Seacoast to start discussing a solar conference next year.

IV. Public Comments- none

V. Expenditures

1. Requests for funds- requests include:

Garden hose timer for Moharimet's garden- \$20

Paper Compost garbage can at Mohatimet - \$27.72

One hydration station (location TBD by Jim R.) - \$1,000

Dishwasher for MW teacher's room (installation completed by Facilities) - \$400.00

Elementary science books- a set bought for MW and MOH - \$100.00

Sustainability/environmental movies - \$100

Compost and other supplies for HS gardens - \$200

Produce purchased from the HS "market" for use in school lunch - \$100

Replacement of three raised beds on west side of Moharimet along with the installation of a new raised bed inside the front parking lot "island." \$100

Motion made by Dennis to purchase the presented requests for 2015-16 school year.

Second: Nell All approved.

Previously approved funds:

Attendance to Recovery Resource conference by GT leaders, parent, and students each from MW, MS, and Moh. \$500

HS gardens: compost and supplies \$200

2. Discussion of new "request for funds" form-

- suggestions made to make form more user friendly.. less text, simplify questions
- Add a statement that individual making a request may be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the fund request
- next year offer \$100 for each school's garden without requiring ORSC voting for purchases. Receipts need to be turned in.

VI. Old Business

1. Updates by Green Team leaders-

Kristin: Moharimet will have a school assembly on Tuesday the 7th for the Foss Eco-Throw project. \$250.00 has been awarded to both Moharimet and MastWay. Dennis H and Carrie V will be receiving the award from Dave from Eco- Throw.

During this presentation, ask Dave about the possibility of having a Eco-Throw bin placed at MastWay. Depending upon his response, continue discussion with Carrie V and the Lee Transfer Center.

Cristina suggestion to Dave to increase the signage at the front of the bins to help decrease contamination.

Consider placing a sign at the playground stating that the playground needs to be kept trash free and to carry out trash.

Maggie: The Northeast Resource Recovery Association conference was attended by 6 students (2 MS, 2 MW, 2 MOH) along with 1 MW parent and 2 Green Team leaders. The students enjoyed hands-on activities. Diverse age span (4th-12th) attended the conference. The students seemed to enjoy the opportunity to be part of a "greater cause." Kristin received good feedback for attending and excited about the Green Bean club. Kristin provided resources to Kimberlie Berrigan from Allenstown Elementary School.

Sarah L-D - asked if any HS students presenting...Maggie didn't think any students presented. Sarah thought maybe investigating this for next year would be a good idea

Kristin- consider having students write a little statement why a student should attend the conf.

Maggie told us about a 4th grade MW student who attended the conference. She wrote a very persuasive report about why it is important to not idle. She will be presenting to the Durham Library Trustees to promote the signs of no-idling. Thanks to Nell for making this meeting with the trustees happen!

Nell- This is wonderful example of civic engagement and a tiny step toward a shift.

Maggie- Wondered about the Planet Aid bin at MastWay and if they could be added to the HS and MS as a way to collect funds for the ORCSD Sustainability Scholarship (graduating senior)

Maggie- HS production gardens (Christina Felix garden coordinator) has emailed people to help manage the HS gardens over the summer). A UNH lecturer is also helping Christina with planning of the vegies and will have UNH students help with watering. There will be a tomato planting work

party this Thursday for the HS gardens from 5-7 to plant tomatoes. Christina is working with Tim (ORHS food manager) to get vegies to him for the summer lunch program.

ORHS did receive this year's Mr. Fox "complimentary" compost delivery. 1 cubic yard was delivered. Used for the raised beds grown by the students of Estie Ott and Jon Bromley

2. Update from Transportation Director - no update

3. Update from School Board Representative- Dan- workshop last week on the ideas of school stop and start times- very clever ideas. Scenarios of combining and changing how runs are completed led to some interesting options that may help to decrease the issues mentioned (e.g., idling, not taking bus). SB very well received from our communication with newsletter and presentations. SB may ask ORSC to be involved with transportation issue next year in regards to full capacity, no idling, etc... Dan will let us know

ORSC charge for next year will be given to us at the end of the summer. Dan will let us know when he needs our input. Sustainability thread would be a welcome "Pillar 3" initiative

Review of projects/initiatives

a. Foss Manufacturing led Eco-Throw project: review and future involvement

We will gather more information about how Lee recycles plastics and if a bin at MW would work or be desired. Ask Dave from Foss if they would consider having a bin.

Barry- Wondering if plastic bags for home collection is going to be distributed to parents?

Consider having a Foss logo on a plastic bag

Ask Dave to give us an update on the Eco-throw program

Nell- She has been talking with Jim R. about how to get the cost of trash down and the only way is to reduce the number of times it is picked up. After talking with Jim R. it was decided to try to see if a less often pickup could work: Picking up once every other week for the majority of the year and for the beginning and end of year the pick-up will once a week.

b. ORSC led initiatives for 2016-17: brainstorm potential initiatives and are dependent upon the charge given to ORSC by the School Board.

- Start to identify the areas of sustainability thread curriculum

- Support representation on the Science Committee

- Sarah - encourage students to present at a conference

- Dennis- Would like to suggest that we meet with Dr. Morse to get more staff representatives for ORSC. This will be critical when work is focused on the sustainability "thread" in the curriculum/pillar 3.

Maggie- maybe not meet so often which will allow others to show interest.

Consider to identify when and who meets for next year.

Start meetings earlier in the evening.... Maybe at 5.

Maybe focus our work on more project focus membership and not a yearly involvement. A project based focus provides a definite start and end point.

Doris- additional support/members will make our work less isolated.

Sarah- administration support for ORSC has been wonderful.

Dennis- social media has taken over what we use to do face to face. It's incredibly important to get representation. Meet now and then before fall opening to share a plan to increase participation by staff - Dennis, Sue, Cristina meet with Dr. Morse

- Nell- biweekly landfill pick-up instead of every week for majority of school year
- Eco-throw- maintain work, data collection, monitor contamination
- Invitation to new employers... Put information about ORSC in the orientation packet
- Maggie- Revisit ORSC web presence and keep it updated
- Maggie- Identify ways we could possibly support monetarily the District's Sustainability scholarship through a special initiative
- Maintain e-Newsletter
- Community Outreach: Winter Farmer's Market, UNH production garden opportunities, community movies
- Make the meeting agendas shorter. Have fewer full ORSC meetings.
- Meet in different schools.
- Collaborate with the District's Wellness Committee
- Reach out to co-sponsor a number of Community Events... Set a "metric" of how we model and promote civic responsibility.
- Nell, Maggie, and Cristina will be attending a meeting at the HS with the department heads. Purpose is to share opportunities that can be offered by Green Team leaders and ORSC. Also to discuss ORSC hope of incorporating a "thread" of sustainability across all grade levels but especially in science.

4. UNH Intern Student Intern Application and process - Maggie will help with interviews in late August/early September. Cristina will notify Shelley to start the application process.

5. Educational Outreach Ideas for 2016-17

a. Media- No discussion

b. Programs - movies: Maggie will help organize the viewing. Cristina will work on identifying some possible movies

Doris: Community Dinner: Sept, Nov, Jan. March, June (4th grade BBQ)

4th grade dinner (June 14th) - purely social. Mary will promote Green Bean Club ☺

VII. New Business

1. Review ORSC's Charge given by the School Board in anticipation for revised Charge from School Board for 2016-17. - Did not take place.
2. Ideas/initiatives to discuss for next year- See short list above. Additional conversation will take place in September once Charge had been given to us from the School Board.

VIII. Public Comments- None

IX. Proposed Full ORSC Meeting dates for 2016-2017 school year. Changes and Locations to be determined.

Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 7pm - date will be reserved.

These dates will be discussed/approved at our Full meeting on 9-28-16

Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7pm

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 7pm. Snowdate: Thursday, January 26, 2017

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 7pm

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 7pm

X. Agenda ideas for next ORSC meeting-

Steering mtg in 2nd week of September

School Board charge ... and ORSC approves projects or initiatives

Reorganization of meetings, agenda, project-based focus, to help increase membership

XI. Future Steering meeting date- 2nd week of September. Cristina will notify in August

XII. Closing Actions- Have a nice summer!

XIII. Adjournment at 6:38pm

motion: Cristina

second: Doris

**2015-16 ORSC "Green Schools" pillars
For review in discussing potential initiatives for 2016-17**

Pillar 1 – Green Schools Pillar 1 – Reduce Environmental impact and costs

- The Ecological Footprint report – (Damian, Sue and Jim R.)
- Solar Energy – Unsure about our role with this.
- Paper consumption - Continue looking at reducing paper at the school – promoting this is important and would be perfect for the Newsletter. (Green Team)
- Transportation - Increase ridership on the District Busses. Barry suggested we look at promoting carpooling at the high school. How are we meeting the bussing needs of the Barrington students? Could be looked at with the Ecological footprints. (no one volunteered for this)
- Foss Project – (Dennis and Kristin)

Pillar 2 - Green Schools Pillar 2 – Improve the health and wellness of students and staff

- Community Outreach – public movie on 1/7/16 after Community Dinner
- Community dinners – Harvest dinner in October. (Cristina, Sarah)
- Working with the Wellness committee to find overlapping concerns, and increase dialogue. Perhaps we could integrate with the Wellness committee to encourage healthy cooking with students. (Tracy)
- Continue work with gardens at each school. (Sarah, Dennis)
- Doris would like to find a farmer to plant a crop strictly for her use. Carrots? (Kristin and Cristina will discuss this with Doris.)
- John brought up a Sunday winter farmers market at the Middle school. John has discussed this with the Durham Agricultural committee. This would be for 2017.
- Educating community about the Green Work of the Maintenance
- Production garden (Dennis, Cyd, Chuck and Sarah LD)

Pillar 3 - Green Schools Pillar 3 – Provide effective environmental and sustainability
incorporating STED, civic skills, and green career paths.

education.

- Working to eradicate invasive species in Stolworthy (Mary)
- Movies for the public – (Cristina, HS club)
- Community dinners – (Sarah and Cristina will help Doris)
- Green Team members to environmental Conferences with Students
- Butterfly and Pollinator habitats built at the schools (Kristin)
- Reduce single-use products and promote reusable plates, cups, utensils (Barry, Cristina, Kristin, Sarah)
- Reusable mugs to be refilled at local coffee places (HS?)
- Educational events – Community dinner/movie, Winter Farmer's Market, ORCSD Deliberative Session, Stewardship Projects- citizenship projects and education, trail maintenance, bridge building: Stohlworthy, (MS and HS), Moharimet and The Lee Town Forest (MW) – Maggie, Mary
- HS Students attending conference or another school for networking and learning opportunities - Maggie

Dept. of Education: Green Ribbon School Pillars

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>