

ORSC Full Meeting Agenda  
September 22, 2015 at 7:00pm  
ORHS Library

Present: Sarah Larson-Dennen, Dennis Harrington, Cristina Dolcino, Kristin Houle, Sue Caswell, Maryellen Webb, Sophia Graff, Damian Woodard, John Carroll, Dan Klein, Tracy, Schroeder, Maggie Morrison, Brian T. arrived at 7:30 and Chuck Cox arrived at 7:45

I. Call to Order 7:07            Motion: Dennis            Second: Tracy

II. Introductions- Damian is the UNH intern and Sophia ORHS student rep.

III. Preliminary Actions

- A. Approval of Agenda: Cristina added an update from Lisa Huppe on Section 6  
motion: Maggie second: John
- B. Approval of Minutes of May 13, 2015 - No changes motion: Maryellen second: Dennis
- C. Correspondence/Announcements: Cristina shared about the Harvest Moon festival this weekend in Portsmouth 3-11. This came via Karen Larson. They are looking for volunteers. Later in the meeting Chuck Cox shared - Farm to School conference November 10 in Meredith.

IV. Public Comments - None

V. Expenditures and request for purchases

- a. Green Team request anticipated expenditures for 2015-2016. Maggie shared that the Green team members are meeting on Tuesday and will be figuring this out. She also shared that the HS is taking a Sustainability retreat in September and thought it would be good to provide them snacks and drinks while they planned their goals for the year. The group will give them \$30 for this. Sophia will keep the receipts and be the point person between ORSC and the HS Sus Club.
- b. Other requests or ideas?

VI. Discussion/Updates

- A. UNH Interns Update - Maggie shared that Shelley, Maggie and Mary interviewed three candidates for the internships. Damian Woodard will work on collecting data - ecological footprint - Junior at UNH working on an Environmental Economic Resources degree. The second intern is Joao Tavares-Carreiro who will work with the group during the spring semester - he is interested in helping with classrooms. Brian T. will not be able to work with ORSC as an intern this year. We are thankful for his help over the 1 ½ years (e.g., Sus Club, gardens, networking) and wish him well after he graduated in May 2016.
- B. Steering meeting Update
  - Harvest Community Dinner with local farmers - Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Kristen has contacted 11 farms to participate with the event and will continue working on this. We are

asking that members of the Sustainability Committee be there to help set up, clean up. Maggie, Cristina, Dennis, Sue, Kristin and Sarah will help with this. 5-7:30. Beef stew dinner. Tracy (via the Wellness Committee) shared that it would be nice for the group to plan this at the same time as another event happening at the HS. No ideas.

- District of Distinction Award - School Board meeting: September 16, 2015 - Cristina accepted award and it is in the SAU office. A picture will be taken and sent to Fosters.
- Anticipated 2015-16 goals and proposed changes of the 2013-14 Charge pending School Board approval - Cristina shared this with the School Board at the meeting last week (see attached). The group discussed the Membership Composition of the SC. School Board will look it over and let the group know about it. Cristina mentioned the concern from the SB wanting to be informed of the work of the Green Team. Kristin has already started working on this with Julie Hall, the Moh tech integrator. Barry suggested doing another video to inform the public. The group discussed working on updating the website. Damian may be able to help with this.  
<http://www.orcsd.org/sustainability>
- Green Team Leaders Work -  
Middle school - Sarah shared via an email from Mary that Jay is interested in getting 2 more filtration stations in the building. Jay is hesitant to start composting at the MS. Mary will work with interested teachers on composting in the classroom. The group would love to have a MS staff member join the group to hear about the process at MW and Moh. Kristin will talk to Sunny Sadana about this and Sarah will talk to Chris Hall, Dennis will talk to Jay.  
Moharimet - Kristen shared that Moh had the Fun Run last Friday and the PTO was very supportive of making the event a waste-free event. Families were encouraged to bring plates and utensils and Mr. Harrington shared the Moh teachers' supply of china and utensils. These plates were purchased years ago from the NE Center when it closed.  
High school - Maggie shared that she worked with a group at the Bobcat Bolt to collect water bottles for Foss. Parents were encouraged to not wrap baked goods for the Bake sale in plastic. Visiting teams were helpful with this.
- Management practices of District's fields/land - Jim shared with Cristina that the fields are working to be more organic. Grubs are controlled with 100% organic mixture. The water garden at MW is looking great and working well so far. The custodians will be using a Blue Cleaner - an electrified water that will be used in place of a cleaning products. It will sanitize and be used in place of soap. Joe Boucher will move the raised beds at the MS closer to water. The food from the MS is donated to food pantries in the seacoast area.
- Foss Initiative: Eco-Throw - Dennis shared that Mark Milliken is designing some kind of outreach for HS and Moh. The HS sustainability club will work to collect the caps.
- Transportation - (see attached notes from Lisa Huppe)

C. School Board Representative Comments - Dan - nothing new to report that has not already been mentioned

D. Identify and agree upon 2015-16 initiatives -

a. Resources to consider for discussion and decision

i. Environmental Sustainability Policy - Procedure

[http://www.orcsd.org/images/documents/School\\_Board/Policies/e/ECFA - SUSTAINABILITY POLICYApproved\\_6.5.13.pdf](http://www.orcsd.org/images/documents/School_Board/Policies/e/ECFA_-_SUSTAINABILITY_POLICYApproved_6.5.13.pdf)

- ii. School Board Charge for ORSC <http://www.orcsd.org/sustainability>
- iii. List of proposed initiatives from May 13, 2015 full ORSC meeting (below)

### List of proposed initiatives from May 13, 2015 full ORSC meeting

#### Green Schools Pillar 1 - Reduce Environmental impact and costs

- Solar energy- lessening dependence on fossil fuels - maybe Fall 2015?
- reducing paper/ copier contract- (Green team members and Sue)

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

- Production garden (Dennis, Cyd, Chuck and Sarah LD) -  
Spring 2015 planting, October 2015 harvest-

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

- Educational events - Community dinner/FED UP movie on 1-8-15 (Cristina and Nell), Winter Farmer's Market, ORCSD Deliberative Session,
- Sending kids to the Recycling conference in June. (Mary and Maggie)
- Stewardship Projects- citizenship projects and education, trail maintenance, bridge building: Stohlworthy, (MS and HS), Moharimet and The Lee Town Forest (MW) -
- Mast Way's rain garden - connecting teachers/students/ community/ (Jim Rozicki, Maggie, Leticia, MaryEllen and Annie Snelling.)

- iv. Dept. of Education: Green Ribbon School Pillars

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

- v. Reflect upon brainstormed list of initiatives from September 2014 (attached)

### New Initiatives for the 2015-2016

#### Pillar 1 -

- 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, Mark and Kristin)

#### Pillar 2

- Community Outreach - public movies (see below)
- 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*

### Pillar 3

- Working to eradicate invasive species in Stohlworthy (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 and Cristina, Kristin, Sarah)
- Reusable mugs to be refilled at local coffee places (HS?)

Members not present will be asked to pick an initiative.

Cristina reminded the group to keep the Right to Know laws in mind when working.

Dan suggested that we use the Website platform as a place to inform the members and public regarding what work is going on with the group.

Julie Hall, IT integrator at Moharimet, is working with Kristin H. on some initial work of how to include more information on the District's Sustainability webpage.

E. Facilities - nothing to report

### VI. New Business

- A. Newsletter/publication (online) - thoughts? Kristin will work with Julie Hall to work on this.
- B. Right to Know training for new ORSC members- a new training was not discussed.

### VII. Closing Actions

- A. Approval of full meeting dates for 2015-2016 school year at ORHS Library (typically)

~~Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 7pm~~

Monday, November 23, 2015 at 7pm

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 7pm. Snowdate: Wednesday, January 27 2016

Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 7pm

Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 7pm (6pm potluck dinner and meeting)

- B. Set next Steering Meeting date: October 19, 5-6:30pm ORHS Conference Room 120

- C. Agenda Items for next Full meeting November 23, 2015

VII. Adjournment 8:58 motion: Maggie second: John

<http://www.orcsd.org/sustainability>

Oyster River Cooperative School District  
Board Appointed Committee: Sustainability

September 2015 Review of Charge with proposed goals and action plans

## Sustainability

The Sustainability Committee is the newest ORCSD School Board appointed committee. The purpose of the Sustainability Committee is to facilitate a sustainability forum by working and aligning with the five principles of sustainability in the areas of food, energy, transportation, school curriculum and community outreach. The Committee will demonstrate leadership and resolve to educate community members, and advocate for sustainable living. These recommendations will meet the needs of the students, taxpayers and **will** be fiscally responsible.

**The bold print below represents the Charge given by the School Board to the Sustainability Committee for the years 2013-14. Examples of past accomplishments and currently established objectives were developed by the Sustainability Committee for the 2015-2016 school year.** (strikethrough and red text are the requested changes made by the Sustainability Committee)

- 1. ~~Will~~ **Assist the Superintendent in the development, formation and implementation of 'Green Teams.'****

  - Currently three Green Team leaders coordinate, oversee, and promote a diverse range of sustainability efforts. These leaders interact, motivate, and educate students, school employees, and community members. Examples of their goals include:
    - \*Support the student led initiatives of the Sustainability Clubs in the Middle and High Schools.
    - \* Promote sustainability practices throughout the District that help to heighten awareness about the importance of environmental, economic, and socially responsible practices. They also identify data representing a shift in behavioral practices toward more sustainable practices.
    - \* Provide resources and present information that explains, models, and compliments instructional practices, standards, and curricula for topics related to energy reduction, health, and environmental awareness.
    - \* Seek opportunities to continuously self-educate, research, and collaborate with other schools, contractors, and organizations who are involved with the District or have similar goals.

- 2. ~~Will~~ **sServe as a resource to the School Board, the Administration and various Departments to implement sustainable practices to improve environmental efficiencies and reduce ecological impact at each school building, according to school district policy.****



- Members of the Sustainability Committee offer support that may include needs identification, research and data collection, and the gathering of perspectives, suggestions, and ideas for implementation. Members of the Sustainability Committee are passionate about the topics of sustainability. Some members are professionals with expertise in sustainability while other members have knowledge and work in different careers or professions. Examples of goals include:
  - \* Serve on the District's Athletic Field Committee.
  - \* Participate in Green Team Committees that work to coordinate and address challenges and initiatives specific to each school. These committees may include administration, custodian/facility staff, teachers, and parents.
  - \* Work with UNH Interns (typically 3) to serve in the district. We have been fortunate to work with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students as they create and support sustainable initiatives. These individuals work with the administration, teachers, students, and Green Team leaders. Supervision of their work takes place by Green Team leaders and Sustainability members.

**3. May Assist the Food Service in the implementation of the 'Kids Eat Local' program;**

- Support, collaboration, and networking is available to the Food Service Director to help create, promote, and coordinate initiatives specific to the wellness and nutrition of the District. Examples of goals include:
  - \* Participate and support the Community dinners prepared by the Food Service throughout the year for District families and community members (approximately 4 times).
  - \* Support the gleaning of crops offered by local farmers (e.g., apples, tomatoes).

**4. May Research, collate, and report on curriculum lessons that compliment and integrate the District's standards and Curriculum. ~~Science Common Core and District Standards.~~**

- Teachers and administrators serving on the Sustainability Committee are available to help discuss, analyze, and integrate topics related to sustainability for the District's standards and Curriculum. The Committee hopes to be involved in future curriculum reviews to help weave topics of sustainable practices and environmental awareness across all grades and curricula areas. Examples of goals include:
  - \* Collect various instructional materials, contacts, and opportunities when requested by teachers so they can be used for instruction.
  - \* Purchase and acquire movies that can be used for classroom instruction, free public showings, or home viewing by families in the District.

**5. Will Work to integrate sustainability initiatives directly into the line items of the school district's budget.**

- The Sustainability Committee is grateful for the commitment, participation, and ongoing interest of the District employees and families to intentionally shift toward more sustainable practices. As is stated by the US Department of Education Green Ribbon Program, three pillars highlight practices and resources important for 21<sup>st</sup> century excellence in education and are used to guide our work and identify initiatives.
  1. Reduced environmental impact and costs.
  2. Improve the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff, and
  3. Provide environmental education, which teaches many disciplines, and is especially good at effectively incorporating STEM, civic skills, and green career pathways.
- Data collection, inquiry, and discussion help to identify potential areas where waste of any kind could be reduced (e.g., energy, natural resources, human potential). We provide information that is shared with the Superintendent, School Administrators, Business Administrator, Facilities Director, Food Service Director, Transportation Supervisor, and Information Technology Director to help effectively attain growth in

sustainable practices in the areas of food, energy, transportation, school curriculum and community outreach. One example of recent initiatives supported by the Sustainability Committee include the selection of energy efficient copies/printers that promote the reduction of paper waste, as well as an awareness of paper usage. In addition, stipends to compensate the work of the three Green Team Leaders and the High School Sustainability Club advisor are line items in the budget. Finally, \$5,000 is budgeted to support educational outreach work and \$15,000 for the purchase of local foods by Food Services (already this fall five local farmers have provided grass fed beef, eggs, tomatoes, carrots, and greens for school lunches.).

**6. Will provide periodic summations on projects/initiatives and provide a written report at end of the school year, including any process and/or reporting recommendations for future years.**

- Initiatives are annually identified based on the Green Ribbon Schools Pillars. Each member selects his/her area(s) of work. The Steering Committee meets every 4-6 weeks and information is shared from the various initiatives. The full Sustainability Committee meets five times a year (i.e., 9-22-15, 11-23-15, 1-26-16, 3-23-16, 5-4-16) and two public comments opportunities are included in each agenda. It is the goal for the full Committee to consistently have representatives from each of the Towns of Lee, Madbury, and Durham, as well as District administrators and teachers, a Wellness Committee member, School Board representative, OR High School students, a UNH faculty/student, and other individuals (e.g., NH Farm to School Program).
- Information about our work is distributed through press releases, posters, emails, online sites, and the Durham Cable Access Television- DCAT Cable Channel 22.
- Agenda and minutes can be found on the District's site under School Board: to then Board Appointed Committees and then to the right of the page to Sustainability.  
<http://www.orcsd.org/sustainability>
- An end of the year annual written report will be given to the School Board that highlight the achievements of our initiatives, degree to which goals were reached, and effectiveness of the processes we used to accomplish our work. The report will also identify any challenges and make recommendation to support the success for the work during 2016-2017.

2015-2016 Ideal Sustainability Committee Membership Composition:

Teachers from Mast Way, Moharimet, Middle School, and High School

District Administration (3-4)

Students from the High School (1-2)

School Board Representative

Wellness Committee Member (Board Appointed Committee)

Representative from the Towns of Lee, Madbury, and Durham (2 from each town)

UNH Faculty Representative

UNH Student Representative

NH Farm to School Representative

UNH Interns (non-voting member)

Green Team Leaders (non-voting member)

Community members who may include local farmers, district parents, retired citizens, faith leaders, Town officers/selectpersons etc...(non-voting member)

Charge is found at: <http://www.orcsd.org/sustainability>

Update from Lisa Huppe for Tuesday, September 22, 2015 Full ORSC Meeting

I was able to lease 3 new 77 passengers this past spring with the savings in maintenance line due to newer buses. This is a 5 year lease. I purchased 3 new buses out of the budget for FY16 plus one additional to replace the bus that was totaled in the accident this past May.

I applied for NERA School Bus replacement grant money again in Nov. – ORCSD not get picked; it is a random computerized picking

I applied for NH DERA grant monies in the spring. In August we were granted \$55,000.00 toward new buses. ☺

New findings with the mandated diesel emissions. Several warranty mechanics that I have conversed with have stated that the diesel particulate filtering system are not designed to let the engine idle. Idling at low speeds create carbon build up on the engine. Eventually a carbon crust builds up damaging the life of the engine. The culprit is the system creating the carbon buildup. Bio fuel is felt to increase the amount of carbon buildup.

If ORCSD buses have a diesel particulate filtering system we use diesel to minimize carbon crust damage. All older buses continue to use BIO with no visible signs of damage.

Bus Routes

21 HS MS buses: assignment capacity averaging 88%; routes are 40-45 minutes long

20 Elementary buses: assignment capacity is 39%; routes are 35-40 minutes long

We will continue with actual counts throughout the school year to get a more precise ridership.

Looking at an additional elementary bus route due to long bus routes.

Let me know if there is anything else you might need for info. If I can make it, I will. ☺

Lisa Huppe

Transportation Director

Oyster River Cooperative School District

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Charge:



1. Will assist the Superintendent in development, formation and implementation of 'Green Teams.'
2. Will serve as a resource to the School Board, the Administration and various Departments to implement sustainable practices to improve environmental efficiencies and reduce ecological impact at each school building, according to school district policy.
3. May assist the Food Service in the implementation of the 'Kids Eat Local' program;
4. May research, collate, and report on curriculum lessons that compliment and integrate Science Common Core and District Standards.
5. Will work to integrate sustainability initiatives directly into the line items of the school district's budget.
6. Will provide periodic summations on projects/initiatives and provide a written report at end of the school year, including any process and/or reporting recommendations for future years.

This important committee advises on District policy, procedure and sustainability efforts.

Check out more at [The Green Oyster](#)

#### **2013-14 Members:**

Dennis Harrington	OCSD Administrator
John Carroll	UNH Representative
Griffin Sinclair-Wingate	
Cristina Dolcino	Durham
Sarah Larson-Dennen	Moharimet Representative
Nell Neal	

### **ORSC Brainstorming Initiatives List - Full meeting 9-24-2014 Sorted into 3 Green Ribbon School Pillars at 10-9-14 Steering meeting**

#### **ONGOING WORK:**

##### **Pillar 1: Reduce environmental impact and costs**

- Composting-recycling
- Reducing waste in kitchen and Schools: Stream line bulk condiments, no straws, compostable supplies
- Water filling stations
- Continue to use green products at the facility work.... Cleaning supplies, tiles and not carpets
- Friday Power Downs and Break/vacation Power Downs
- Car and bus decrease idling at the schools

- Bio diesel fuel for buses
- Bus routes efficiency
- Retrofit of lighting in District
- Digital communication verses paper
- Buy recycled paper for copiers
- Provide healthy and local foods for school meals (e.g., Farm to School, local farmers, fish)

**Pillar 2: Improve the health and wellness of students and staff**

- District Community Dinners serving local foods
- Ongoing financial support of local food purchases for School nutrition program
- Nutritious local foods-
- Bike to School program at MS

**Pillar 3: Provide effective environmental and sustainability education, incorporating, STEM, civic skills and green career pathways**

- Electricity awareness
- Sustainability Challenges
- Maple sugaring, pumpkins, vegies, herbs, flowers etc... in the schools
- Continue to support community gatherings that celebrate sustainable work
- Support instruction in the gardens
- Outdoor Education, trail use, environmental lessons, etc... by teachers and GT leaders
- Support ongoing themes of education/instruction by teachers and GT leaders

**POTENTIALLY NEW WORK:**

**Pillar 1 Reduce environmental impact and costs**

- Continually commission the Schools: Systems are checked regularly with Seimens
- Green the supply chain- service, products, or process for both inside and outside environments
- Water bottle free campus - add more stations
- If new field is approved at HS include hydration stations outside
- Reducing paper use... make all copiers default to duplex. Add this to the new contract in 2 years.
- Revision Energy... awnings on buildings that are not south facing
- Solar Carports
- Benchmarking what other schools are doing for practices of sustainability
- Research grant opportunities
- Reduce paper use

## **Pillar 2 Improve the health and wellness of students and staff**

- Nutritious local foods- "improve" contracts with food providers
- Wellness Fair for Staff in District
- Develop a relationship with the District Wellness Committee
- Clarify cleaning policies that can be used in classrooms ... newsletter, signage?

## **Pillar 3: Provide effective environmental and sustainability education, incorporating, STEM, civic skills and green career pathways**

- Educational events... movies, speakers, books,
- Continue our own professional development
- Developing a stronger connections with outdoor instruction, enjoyment, awareness, stewardship...
- Strong student Sustainability Clubs
- Have students from MOH and MW attend the Recycling Conference in June
- How many teachers are implementing sustainability topics? Survey?
- Provide support to these teachers teaching sustainability
- Atlas implementation may help share information of instructional areas across grade levels
- Gaining more connections with Community (attending farmer markets by students)
- Jim R continually working on the Rain Garden at MW - use for education
- Field Trip Education Guidebook... ETS, EcoMaine,
- Lessening our dependency to fossil fuels and increasing our educational awareness of alternative energy sources
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade environment camp
- Field Trips for adults to schools, programs, businesses etc.. involved in sustainability work
- Continue to develop alliance with other Sustainability Organizations
- Events District policy - other schools,
- New employees and student orientation program regarding sustainability practices
- Winter gardening using tunnels
- Provide opportunities for student learning to be showcased to the larger Communities (like the UNH undergraduate model)
- Green-Sustainable School Activities (e.g., HS Green Careers Day)