

ORSC Full Meeting Minutes -draft  
November 23, 2015 at 7:00pm  
ORHS Library

Present: Karen Larson, Kristin Houle, Nick Dundorf, Cristina Dolcino, Maggie Morrison, Tracy Schroeder, Barry Kaplan, Nell Neale, Maryellen Webb, Doris Demers, Chuck Cox, Sarah Larson-Dennen, Mary Caulfield

I. Call to Order 7:04                      Motion: Maggie                      Second: Barry

II. Introductions - Nick Dundorf, a sophomore at ORHS, joined the group today. Karen Larson also joined the group – a former member back to visit.

III. Preliminary Actions

A. Approval of Agenda:              motion: Maryellen              second: Cristina

B. Approval of Minutes of September 22, 2015              motion: Maggie              second: Tracy

C. Correspondence/Announcements: Dennis shared, via Cristina, news about a parcel of land along the Oyster River at the Power Major Farm in Madbury, that is being considered for conservation. There is an article in the fall issue of the ORHS magazine, The Mouth of the River, regarding the work of the Sustainability Group.

IV. Public Comments– none

V. Expenditures and request for purchases

a. Green Team request anticipated expenditures for 2015-2016-  
Money currently spent - Mary spent \$175 for Green Team field trips. Maggie spent \$50 for the classroom compost materials for the classrooms.

b. T-shirt design. Nick shared that the Sus. Club has talked about the HS group designing a t-shirt for the group to use at events- adult members and students. Nick will have a decision by January.

VI. Discussion/Updates

A. UNH Intern Update – Jim Rozycki reported to Cristina, through email 2 weeks ago, that Damian work on the footprint is going well. He will be asked to give an update in January.

B. Green Team Leaders Update –

- The group visited the following places. Troiano Waste Services the District's hauler, Casella Waste Systems- recycled materials, Covanta Energy- waste energy plant uses our "landfill" waste to make energy. Recycled material is

- taken to Portland, ME and either held there or brought down to MA in order to optimize profit from selling. Cardboard always stays in Portland.
- Maggie shared the recycling is sorted by #s, then bundled at the plant. Casella stated that 70% is shipped elsewhere (perhaps China?). The group was disappointed to learn that so much of our country's recycling is sent overseas and the recycling process is always changing. The rules are different for each community and each facility. The group would like to be involved when new contracts are decided on by the District. There was talk about the Sus. Club visiting these places.
  - Powerdown for Thanksgiving long weekend. Various types of reminders were given to teachers at each school. At the middle school – the Green Bean Club made and gave teachers a magnetized clothes pin with information regarding the Power Down.
  - The Green Team Leaders are working on ideas to encourage flatware be used at HS sport banquets.
  - Middle School group worked one day in late Fall on a No Idling Campaign – making signs and handing out informational “tickets” to cars idling in the pick-up line (as many as 28 cars are in line to pick up kids at the end of the day). Adults were responsive.  
Ten seconds of idling is as much as restarting your car.
  - Mary noticed more bikes in the bike racks at the MS than ever before.

C. School Board Representative Update – No school board rep present. Cristina did share that our Charge from the School Board was accepted by the School Board. The Charge that was presented to the School Board in September is attached.

D. Facilities Update - no report given. Nell spoke with Jim R. about the use of solar energy in the District. The HS will need a new roof in 3 years so Jim doesn't want to put panels up if the roof needs to be replaced. Barry shared that Solar Car Ports could be something to work with at the HS parking lots. Mast Way's new boiler is more energy efficient, but is not a wood chip boiler. Revision energy will do an in-depth evaluation at all the facilities over the next six months. The facilities building would be great location for solar energy. Jim would like to share with the group about the new cleaning system at the high school. He's interested in installing sensors on the faucets to reduce water waste. Jim is still interested in working with the ORSC to hear new ideas. He would like to see the ORSC work to bring solar panels for educational purposes to the District. Barry suggested connecting solar panels with green houses. Cristina would like to see a MS/HS staff member show interest in this so we can move forward. Al Lofgren from the MS expressed interest in using solar panels for instructional purposes several years ago. Cristina will research if there is interest by teachers in the District for using solar panel for instruction

E. Child Nutrition Services - Doris Demers

- Community Dinners- October 6, November 10 – went well

- Thursday, January 7, 2016 – Community Dinner and Bag it Movie. Dinner starts at 5:00 and the movie starts at 6:30.
- Local Farmers’ meeting will be on Thursday, January 21, 2016. Tentatively at ORMS 4:30 cafeteria.
- Spent \$10,000 this year for Farm to School food for the cafeterias which is on track as other years. Farm to School conference was moved to May 2016.
- Doris would like ideas to keep the MS students from throwing away the stainless flatware and also bending it. Their recycling-compost-landfill system in the cafeteria is used but the split levels, and small space makes it tricky to have an “Igor” as is the case at the HS and MOH. How can we help with the losing flatware issue?
- Looking forward to the Farmers’ meeting January 21 to work with the local farmers to plan/plant crops for the District. Doris talked about inviting other district nutrition directors for efficiency and to entice farmers to attend. Doris shared that it’s hard to get procurement forms from farmers (a lot of agreements are word of mouth and this cannot happen under new regulations by the USDA).
- Doris is nominating one of her chef’s for an award by the School Nutrition Association. Comments of support can be sent to her for use in the application.
- Doris is wondering if we are going to apply for the grant again to get tunnels for our gardens with a paid “Farm to School” type position to manage the gardens. Cristina will talk about this with the community members who helped with this last year (Jaqueline Bruhn and Karen Oshima).
- Maggie is interested in talking with Mr. Bromley, Estie Ott, and an interested HS parent about the future of the HS gardening program. This could involve during the school year or during the summer.

#### F. Steering meeting Update

- E-Newsletter/publication – ORCSD Community – Kristin spoke with Josh Olstead, the tech director about updating the website and he will help but can’t do it right now. An email update will be sent out to the ORSCD Community in January.

### VII. New Initiatives for the 2015–2016 with individuals working on initiative

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

- The Ecological Footprint report – Damian is working on it
- Solar Energy – Unsure about our role with this right now.
- Paper consumption - Continue looking at reducing paper at the school – promoting this is important and would be perfect for the Newsletter.
- 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) Christina shared notes from Lisa Huppe about the Flex-Stops that buses make near the MS and HS. Currently there are 10.5% of students within the walking zone. 2.27% of these students use the Flex Stops. Lisa would like the number of students using this service to be increased. It is hoped increasing Flex Stops would help decrease congestion at schools.

- EcoThrow- The Foss Manufacturing Project (collection of #1 single use containers) – Kristin shared that Dave from Foss met with a group of people (Dennis, Kristin, Maggie, Mark M. and student members of the HS Sus. Club) to share what happens from the bottle to the products Foss makes (e.g., carpeting for the interiors of cars).  
An email informational blast (written by Foss) went out today to Moh parents. Kristin has taught two lessons to students at Moh about the Foss program. Chuck shared that Lee recycles the #1 but not all #1.

#### 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. The movie Bag IT will be shown with the facilitation of a discussion after its showing by The Blue Ocean Society
- Community dinners – Harvest dinner in October, November, January and March.
- 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 – the Wellness group will work on coordinating a mental health topic with the community dinner in March. Cristina suggested displaying plants that can help clean your air at home, blood pressure checks, massage therapists, poster boards of info, etc...
- Continue work with gardens at each school.
- Sunday winter farmers market at the Middle school. John has previously mentioned this and the Durham Agricultural committee is working for this to maybe begin in 2017.
- Educating community about “Super Green” cleaning products of Maintenance – ask Jim R
- Production garden – nothing to report

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

- Working to eradicate invasive species in Stohlworthy – Green Bean Club and classroom students worked on this in October. No additional plans made to date
- Movies for the public – Maggie is working on this – possible date is March 3<sup>rd</sup> – topic/movie has not been chosen

- Community dinners – see above
- Green Team members attend environmental Conferences with Students – has not been decided
- Butterfly and Pollinator habitats built at the schools- nothing completed yet
- Reduce single-use products and promote reusable plates, cups, utensils – nothing done to date.
- Reusable mugs to be refilled at local coffee places- HS Sus Club considering this as an initiative
- Educational events – display of trifold at Community dinners/movie, Winter Farmer’s Market at Wentworth Gardens, ORCSD Deliberative Session,
- Stewardship Projects- citizenship projects and education, trail maintenance, bridge building: Stohlworthy, (MS and HS)- maybe more work in spring?
- Moharimet and The Lee Town Forest (MW) – nothing completed
- HS Sus Club Students attending conference or another school for networking and learning opportunities – maybe connect with York, Maine since they have recently “banned” plastic bags.

Dept. of Education: Green Ribbon School Pillars

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

## VI. New Business

- A. End of year report to School Board - working on it, submit pictures for this report

## 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. Next Steering Meeting date: Monday, January 11, 5-6:30pm ORHS

- C. Agenda Items for next Full meeting January 26, 2016

Blue water report from Jim R.

Follow-up on movie

Solar option with Mary

Green team budget items

Results from farmers meeting

VII. Adjournment 9:01 motion: Maryellen second: Cristina

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 a**~~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 s**~~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.~~
  - 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>