

Environmental Education Committee Agenda/Minutes 2022-2023

Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2023

EE Goal Updates-

Food Update- Composting- if we do composting, kids should go around with a bucket for compostable items before the kids even dump their trays.

We are having a local pig next week. We just received a farm to school grant so we school will be serving many non processed food items that are grown and/or produced in MN.

MN Phenology Update- Found a local naturalist and teach us what is in our school forest so we can add more easily to Nature's Notebook.

Lunch Recycling/Composting Poster- Joe has the poster mostly completed. Can kids help out with recycling so that they are better about where they are putting their recycling and prepping it. Maybe move some of the recycling bins so that they are more easily accessible. Maybe some clearer directions/signage for recycling so people know exactly where it should go. Maybe classes can do a walking field trip so that kids can see where their recycling is supposed to go. Make a video of what goes where so that kids can watch it and also help them learn what to do.

One Book One School Project- Items have been ordered. Melanie will pass out materials when they are in so classes can do them on their own timeline.

Eagle's Nest Update- Permits are in! Melanie will work on curriculum and eagle's nest information. We need to make a thank you note from the kids to the city of Crosslake for all of their help in transporting and assembling the temporary structure. Melanie and Annette are going to the Lions Club to see if they will donate money for the structure.

Upcycle Project- Earth week Wednesday with our buddies. We'd need more than 20 minutes to do one of the projects.

Earth Week Ideas- CCS Unplugged for the last half of the day for the week and track so we can see how much fuel we saved. Possibly call Crow Wing Power and see if they can tell us how much power less that we use. No waste lunch. (Make a goal for everyone.) Eat lunch outside for the week. Snack outside. Scavenger hunt **in the school forest. Use some of the stuff that we used for summer school.**

EE Extras- Thoughts for other EE projects: Melanie will check on EE budget

PK-K- Butterflies

1-2- Raised Garden Beds

3-4- Chickens

5-6- Pollinator Garden ? Monarch Waystation

7-8- Work with naturalist(s) and do the MN Phenology Network.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 16th

Any updates to EE Goals- 7th grade is getting ready to do their presentations on reducing food waste. A few would be willing to do it at assembly. 1-2 is working hard on recycling paper.

7th/8th grade environmental debate last year they debated magnesium mining. Relevant topics, slot limits on fish, wolf hunting, wake boats, hunting zones, trapping, at a public lake should you be able to fish whenever you want? All ideas are welcome.

Garbage/recycling update- We are at a standstill with milk carton recycling. There isn't anywhere in our area that will take them at this time.

Lunch Recycling Board- Joe will get working on that.

MN Phenology Network Update- Melanie and Lisa are working on and almost done. Melanie and Lisa will choose the species that we'd like to focus on.

One Book One School- I do have books in amazon cart. Melanie will order soon. $\frac{3}{4}$ books are available on get Epic.

Solarium- Classes have been enjoying doing jobs in the solarium. $\frac{3}{4}$ has been having morning meetings in the solarium. Colin may be interested in planting some veggies with his class.

Gardening Projects- Melanie is looking into a Pollinators project. Joe is growing veggies in his classroom. Looks like an exciting project. Joe got it from Tech mobile. They are free. Including the materials. (From Sourcewell). Maybe other classes would be interested in looking into it.

Anything else- We are probably getting an Eagle's nest.

Colin Williams is our new EE school board rep.