

# Environmental Education (Online) Committee

## 2/19/26 Agenda/Minutes

### **Present:**

Brittany Burkel  
Becky Gilbertson  
Scott Hetherington  
MaryKay Moe  
Angela Oleszko  
Cathy Priest  
Rebecca Sutherland  
Alyssa Swan  
William Toney

**Absent:** Jen Muller, Melanie Donley (Board rep), Cristin Hardy, Isabelle Morris, Clare Thompson (optional)

**Minutes** - MaryKay reviewed

Question (Cathy): Field Trips - Next steps? When are Learning Coach reviews due; when to roll out to students; how accessible to students; any seniors need field trips; who reviews the field trip (correcting); database somewhere?

Field trip reviews are due on May 1, they are open to anyone that would like to add them to classes at any point.

Becky will work on a student access point for field trips

### Reports:

**Environmental Education (EE) Coordinator/Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP)** - Becky - No major updates on the ELP. If you have finished a goal that you are tracking, feel free to add your data now to avoid the end of year rush. Let me know if you have any questions about that.

### **Earth Day**

Could we create a sticker to celebrate the students who participated and stand out? Less expensive to mail and provides recognition. What about a 9-12 sticker designing contest as an Earth Day activity? Students who meet a certain threshold get one of the stickers? Then students who receive a sticker all 4 years get a green cord. [Green cord criteria already laid out.](#)

[Consensus to go forward with Earth Day sticker design contest.](#) MaryKay and Becky to meet.

**K-5** - Muller - adding the K-5 EE news to our newsletter monthly.

**Middle School** - Alyssa - Started science meetings. Haven't gotten to discussing EE yet!

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**Learning Coaches** - Brittany - [here to help](#); Question: Helping students a lot? Mostly directing to teachers, encouraging students to reach out and how to ask.

**EE Connection (MESS-E) Project SY26** (current high school enrollment 322)

Question: Do we have data from last year to compare - Becky will find (for next meeting), but better than last year. What are we doing this year to be sure to keep next year. Getting built in more. People are getting used to it.

Intro and Reflection - MaryKay

Intro 243 completed out of 306 or 79% participation. Reflection - posted 1/21 and 2 turned in to Google Classroom so far.

Math and English - Cathy

Math 162 completed out of 306 or 52.9% participation Many students submitting more than once.

English 97 completed out of 306 or 31.7% participation Concerns from Amy? Students not taking too seriously. Choose new English teacher for next school year.

Science - Scott/Will - 227 submissions (up from 213) 70.4%; some duplicates

Social Studies and Stream - Rebecca 269 total submissions, expect submissions to be low for a while, since it's placed later in the course for WHB.

Stream: Going well, not as much interaction this semester; looking for nature related volunteer opportunities; found one for March

SPED - Cristin/Angela - no new info, no questions

Salt Watch - MaryKay

210 Kits ordered, 24 first readings, 8 second readings - participation is increasing!

MaryKay, Cathy, Olivia, Angela, Becca (who else) seminar session on Mess-e and salt watch with lots of student interaction. [Slides](#) from presentation.

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Additional recognition - Stickers from design contest.

### **Tabled: SY27 Project**

(Year 1: Waste management/Human Consumption/Pollution - CLOTHING POLLUTION)

English, Elective

**Tabled: Green Cord** - Determined by MaryKay and Becky? Met with Molly.

**Tabled: EE Valedictorian/additional recognition** - Choose if it makes sense each year.

**School Orientation Materials** - Waiting on meeting with Emily.

**Environmental Education class (etc.) required for credit** - Rose discussed with the cabinet. The short answer is that we are not planning to make Environmental Education a graduation requirement.

One of the big reasons is that Osprey Wilds wants environmental education embedded across all classes rather than isolated into a single required course. Our goal is for students to encounter these concepts throughout their learning, not just in one class.

There are also some practical concerns. If Environmental Education were a graduation requirement, any senior who transferred in would be required to take it, which could quickly make the class very large and potentially create barriers to graduation for new students.

Natalie does an excellent job encouraging most students to take Environmental Science. For students who are with us for multiple years, they are almost certainly getting that content and exposure.

**MESS-E in JTerm** - Since the high school focuses on career exploration, maybe we could do something with Environmental Science related careers. I don't think any of us have discussed much with Natalie. I don't know much about the MCIS courses. (MaryKay)

MaryKay will get more information from Natalie.

Becky will look for a PD for students in EE. Will put some info together for students in EE

Question: Since the JTerm lesson is about 2 hours work and earns .25 credit, why can the MESS-E project not be the same? Becky - Can have the conversation with Osprey Wilds as to how it fits into the online program/curriculum.

**Tabled: Embed EE Project in Seminar** - Doesn't fit into the framework of the course. Does work to highlight/market and Olivia put a link in the to-dos.

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**New Business** - none

**Next Meeting:** March 5, 2026 9:00 a.m.

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