



*...the educational prism through which students realize meaning and purpose in their lives...*

**TO:** Dr. Albert G. Roberts, Superintendent of Schools  
**FROM:** Therese M. O'Neill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations  
**RE:** Zero Waste Grant Proposal  
**DATE:** September 9, 2010

As you may recall, for the 2009-10 school year, District 97 formally partnered with Seven Generations Ahead in the form of a consulting agreement, for the purpose of assuming overall coordination of the Zero Waste Grant endeavors, including supporting the Zero Waste teams in each building along with additional educational endeavors within our school buildings. Last year, the consulting agreement was in the amount of \$5,400. Attached is the consulting agreement for the 2010-11 school year, in the amount of \$7,500.

The District began its association (non-formal) with Seven Generations Ahead during the 2008-09 school year with the introduction of a dishwasher at Holmes School. From then and through the 2009-10 school year, and with the purchases made thus far in 2010-11, the District has saved \$25,984 based upon the five elementary schools becoming reusable lunchrooms and the reduction of paper use in three elementary schools due to more efficient use of paper (double-sided printing). In fact, we should expect annually to be saving over another \$20,000 due to these, as well as future, endeavors. Finally, because of the partnership with Seven Generations Ahead, we have amassed \$94,247 of grant money to implement these efficiencies (dishwashers, composters, supplies, etc.) which generate ongoing savings.

On Tuesday evening, two representatives from Seven Generations Ahead (Gary Cuneen & Jen Nelson), will share a brief power-point presentation demonstrating where we were and are in terms of Zero Waste endeavors in District 97.

I am requesting your consideration of recommending approval of this consulting agreement to the Board of Education. Clearly the cost incurred is significantly overshadowed by the savings we have already seen, as well as ongoing annual savings to be derived.

**Attachment (1)**

