

Santa Cruz City Schools
GREEN SCHOOLS COMMITTEE
Meeting of 04/08/2021
Minutes

Attendance at Meeting:

- Jim Monreal-SCCS Asst. Supt. Business Services
- Stu Branoff-Bay View Teacher
- Pauline Seales-City of Santa Cruz Waste Reduction
- Elnora Lewis-Harbor High Recycle Club
- Chris Soriano-Museum of Natural History
- Jeremy Shonick-SCCS Trustee
- John Owen- SCCS Trustee
- Patricia Threet- SCCS Trustee
- Keresha Durham-AFE Teacher
- Amy Hedrick-Farr, SCCS Food Services Director
- Trevor Miller, SCCS Facility Services Director
- Leslie O'Malley- City of Santa Cruz
- Christina Horvat-Santa Cruz County
- Mary Ann LoBalbo-Santa Cruz County
- Lexi Daoussis- Fellow- -City of Santa Cruz Climate Action Program

Unable to attend:

- Dorothee Ledbetter-AFE Teacher
- Zeke Bean
- Amity Sandage-Santa Cruz County Office of Education
- Dan Lazarus-Santa Cruz County Parks
- Cayley Soon-City of Santa Cruz Waste Reduction
- Tiffany Wise-West-City of Santa Cruz Climate Action Program

Call to Order:

Assistant Superintendent Jim Monreal called the Green Schools Committee meeting to order at 4:02 pm via the Zoom platform. He welcomed all attendees.

11/12/20 Meeting Minutes:

Jeremy Shonick and Elnora Lewis Members moved to approve the draft minutes of the 01/07/21 Green Schools Committee meeting. The minutes were approved by all Committee Members.

Update from High Recycle Club (Elnora Lewis):

Ms. Lewis shared that she has been working with students to demonstrate how to properly dispose of masks. Masks are not recyclable, cannot be flush down the toilet, and must be disposed of in the trash.

Update from City of Santa Cruz Waste Reduction (Leslie O'Malley):

Ms. O'Malley shared that they are still not able to do tours of the facility due to the pandemic, but that they hope in the fall they can continue providing grants for buses to take students up to the facility.

Stu Branoff

Mr. Branoff noted that outdoor science school had to be virtual this year. An Earth Day even has not been developed due to the teachers spending much of their time returning to in-person learning.

Update from Youth for Climate Justice (Pauline Seales):

Ms. Seales shared that Youth for Climate Justice held a large webinar with Leslie O'Malley from Santa Cruz Waste Reduction. Ms. Seales also noted that Youth for Climate Justice has organized an event for Earth Day taking place in downtown Santa Cruz on the farmer's market lot, which includes a photo contest about Climate Change. Youth for Climate Justice have been working with Superintendent Kris Munro to present at the June 2nd Board Meeting.

Update from Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History (Chris Soriano):

Mr. Soriano shared that the Museum will open to members on Saturday, April 10th and will open up to the public on Saturday, April 17th with a scientific illustration exhibit.

Keresa Durham:

Ms. Durham shared that her environmental science class has been working on presentations about climate change, the use of pesticides, and chemical pollution.

Update from Food Services (Amy Hedrick-Farr):

Ms. Hedrick-Farr shared that Food Services is attempting to be as environmentally friendly as possible while providing packaged meals to students.

Santa Cruz City Schools Update (Trevor Miller):

Mr. Miller shared that his team is discussing and pursuing including solar panels into the modernization of school sites where possible.

Breakout Groups

The Committee broke out into three groups to discuss recommendations they would like to bring to the Board of Education. After twenty minutes of discussion, the Committee came back together to report their recommendations. Much of the discussion centered around curriculum and instruction. The Committee requested that a director from our Curriculum Department or our Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services join the Committee at the next meeting to discuss curriculum options to recommend to the Board of Education.

Additional Committee Meeting for 2020-21

The Committee requested that an additional meeting be held before the end of the school year to discuss curriculum options with the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services in preparation for speaking with the Board of Education on June 16, 2021.

Tentative Meetings for 2021-22 Year: _____

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Thursday, January 13, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Adjournment:

Assistant Superintendent Jim Monreal thanked Committee Members for their participation and contributions, which are much appreciated. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jory Berdan
Executive Assistant
Business Services

Jim Monreal
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services