

Santa Cruz City Schools
GREEN SCHOOLS COMMITTEE
Meeting of 01/07/2021
Minutes

Attendance at Meeting:

- Jim Monreal-SCCS Asst. Supt. Business Services
- Stu Branoff-Bay View Teacher
- Tiffany Wise-West-City of Santa Cruz Climate Action Program
- Pauline Seales-City of Santa Cruz Waste Reduction
- Elnora Lewis-Harbor High Recycle Club
- Chris Soriano-Museum of Natural History
- Jeremy Shonick-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

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
- Lexi Daoussis- Fellow- -City of Santa Cruz Climate Action Program

Call to Order:

Assistant Superintendent Jim Monreal called the Green Schools Committee meeting to order at 4:03 pm via the Zoom platform. He welcomed all attendees.

11/12/20 Meeting Minutes:

Tiffany Wise-West and Stu Branoff Members moved to approve the draft minutes of the 11/12/2020 Green Schools Committee meeting. The minutes were approved by all Committee Members.

Update from High Recycle Club (Elnora Lewis):

Ms. Lewis shared that the High Recycle Club is continuing to share videos on proper recycling, as well as discussing topics such as recycling space junk.

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

Mr. Soriano shared that the museum programs have been postponed since the most recent shelter in place began, but that they were able to host a winter camp. Mr. Soriano also noted that the museum held a photo contest that many local high school students participated in.

Pictures: <https://www.santacruzmuseum.org/2020-vision/>

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

Ms. O'Malley noted that there has been a greater focus on food waste reduction and shared a video on how to recycle properly, without contamination.

Video: Recycle Right! to Avoid Contamination- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y2l-hzItxYo>

Update from Youth for Climate Justice (Pauline Seales):

Ms. Seales shared a presentation about the Youth for Climate Justice, as well as remote lessons on Climate Education. Ms. Seales also noted that the group is working on obtaining free bus passes for students and that the group has been hanging flyers around the city promoting climate action and "Zero by 2030."

Presentation: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1sqQ5A6mBccgV05DPV2Ycvq2Aw4poRDhH1VNqYxH07KE/edit#slide=id.gab7d93050a_0_0

Update from SC City (Tiffany Wise-West):

Ms. Wise-West shared that the city is working on an equitable, community-driven Climate Action Plan 2030 process. Ms. Wise-West also shared the city's first community survey on engagement preferences.

Survey open through February 1, 2021. <HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/Y2DP8DP2>

Keresa Durham:

Ms. Durham shared that she sent to School Board Candidates an Environmental Questionnaire regarding Climate Action Walkouts, Carbon Neutrality, Transportation habits, Zero-waste, and Healthy Sustainable School Meals.

Santa Cruz City Schools Trustee, Jeremy Shonick:

Mr. Shonick recommended the book, *The Ohlone Way* by Malcolm Margoin, and inquired what Santa Cruz City Schools has done to reduce their carbon footprint over the past ten years.

Update from Food Services (Amy Hedrick-Farr):

Ms. Hedrick-Farr shared that Food Services has been working on updating the menu and adding more scratch cooking. Ms. Hedrick-Farr also shared that the department is trying to limit unnecessary waste in their family bags, such as no condiment packets or plastic utensils. Ms. Hedrick-Farr also noted that the department is working closely with Open Impact and continuing to provide Professional Development on environmentally friendly practices for employees.

Santa Cruz City Schools Update (Trevor Miller):

Mr. Miller shared that the school sites are being updated to reduce their carbon footprint such as, installing window films to reduce the need for heating and cooling, white roof installation, improved control systems, updating the buses with electric to move away from gas, and adding solar panels.

Ms. Wise-West suggested looking into grants with the State and Federal and Ms. LoBalbo suggested speaking with the local theater groups to perform skits about climate action. The committee discussed options for updating the school sites, including adding bike racks for students to encourage students to ride their bikes to school, instead of drive.

Meetings for 2020-21 Year:

Thursday November 12, 2020 (completed)

Thursday January 7, 2021 (completed)

Thursday April 8, 2021 (4 pm to 6 pm)

Adjournment:

Assistant Superintendent Jim Monreal thanked Committee Members for their participation and contributions, which are much appreciated. The meeting was adjourned at **5:12** pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jory Berdan
Executive Assistant
Business Services

Jim Monreal
Assistant Superintendent
Business Services