

LCS Sustainability Committee Meeting

November 9, 2023

Attendees:

LaRoderick (Rod) McQueen	LySandra Black
Rosanne Wood, School Board Member	Steve Urse
Joel Dawson	Meta Calder
Susan Walden	Ken Edwards
Christie Meresse	Jason Gilmore
Wilbur Gramling	Ernest Lane
Matt Roberson	

Via Zoom:

Michele Keltner

Absent:

Lanayia Singleton	Ernie Ellison
Miaisha Mitchell	Keira Pickens
Nia Ogletree	Marina Mertz
Katie Bennett	Gina Gass

Meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm by Rosanne Wood.

Update was given by Wilbur (Ray) Gramling on the schools that have been updated to LED lighting. They have completed the gym lights (LED) at Montford Middle, all of the high school auditoriums have been completed except SAIL. New construction is done with LED lights. Deerlake Middle gym and parking lots are completely LED. Rickards High: currently working on parking lot lights (should be completed in two (2) to three (3) weeks. Rickards is the only school with sports facilities (Baseball and Softball) with LED lighting all of the other sports facilities are on hylight lighting. Also working on getting inside of the classrooms to change over to LED lights.

It was mentioned that it is now time to capture everything that we are doing and report to the Board.

Information Presented from EcoSchools Initiatives (S. Walden)

Data are in from 18 schools regarding interest and participation in Ecoschools related initiatives.

Findings include that the most common "currently in-progress" initiatives are

- school gardens
- water bottle filling stations
- school green clubs
- sensor and LED lighting

Findings also include the most common areas schools would be interested in learning more about would include

- food share tables
- recyclable material use in the lunchroom
- tracking energy usage

Additionally, the Academic Services Office of Professional Learning, Curriculum, and Instruction has continued to disseminate information on curriculum that speaks to areas of emphasis within the Ecoschools application. Current resources that are Florida standards-aligned and available for use as supplementary curriculum in classrooms looking to incorporate curriculum that satisfies the expectations of the Ecoschools application. Originally, resources from CPALMS, Florida Ag in the Classroom, and the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation have been featured as curricular resources via a handout to administrators at the summer 2023 summit. Additional resources from CAVU on Climate Change and the Sea Turtle Preservation Society have been identified, and a website repository of the supplemental resources will be built to feature them for teachers and students to have a static link to connect to them as we learn of more available resources that address this need.

In the first Elementary Science Ambassador (ESA) meeting of the year all 24 elementary schools within the district were represented and the teachers from our school sites were provided with the EcoSchools and Fair Game Science Standards Supplemental Resources Crosswalk handout from the summer administrator meeting.

DeSoto Trail Elementary is planting gardens in the spring. For the schools that would like to become EcoSchools, they will be holding an in-service to assist them with their applications and answer any questions that they may have. Michele K. and Susan W. will get together to schedule a day for the in-service and it will be held at DeSoto Trail Elementary, more information is forthcoming.

There will be information handed out listing rank order to find out what schools are using the most energy. With new projects, they are making chillers that run particular areas instead the entire school. They will create a spreadsheet that will give a breakdown of their usages. Rosanne would like to have a meeting with Steve Urse, Rod McQueen and Wilbur Gramling about electrical usages.

When making an improvement, is there a way to do a before and after for the usage of kilowatts (kw) and what type of equipment is being changed out.

Steve Urse mentioned that LCS is paying the same commercial rates as other commercial users.

The DRVE event was attended on 11/1/2023 in the parking lot of Governor Square Mall, for our District, thanks to Director June Kail.

This event was hosted by the City of Tallahassee Utilities. In addition to having moved some of their fleet to EV, they are further interested in assessing the volume of electricity that will be consumed as more EVs are added and well as the infrastructure needed for the possible volume of charging stations needed within the city.

In addition to LCS, attendees included staff representing The City of Tallahassee Utilities, Hertz Rent A Car, Leon County Sheriff Department, and others interested in Electronic Vehicles.

The vehicles available for test drives were privately own. Cenntro Automotive Corporation (manufacturer of 14 ft box truck chassis that is custom built, including the box) was on hand with their vehicles as well.

A team, under the leadership of Director June Kail, is currently merging the Skyward Vehicle Report with Fuel Card Reports to further assist in obtaining Data Points needed.

We will be joining the Florida Association of Governmental Fleet Administrators (FLAGFA) to become further educate ourselves on industry and best practices.

The question was asked if the district has set aside a budget and timeframe of replacing vehicles? It is done when a vehicle is beyond repair. Someone then asked if there is a way that we can find a grant that will cover the cost.

The district currently has 1 CNG car, 1 CNG maintenance van and CNG buses.

Nutrition Services is going to try and start a few schools with milk containers. They are also in the process of creating their own share table guide lines. Share tables can consist of prepackaged items that are sealed, fruit options and other items, but it will vary by schools.

34 schools are completely free lunch and 46 schools are purchase lunch. Nutrition Services also serves satellite school sites (Pace for Girls and Bethel to name a few).

Wilbur Gramling with the Electrical Department will give a report once he has collected all of the data. LED's can go in the dumpster, there is no particular way of disposal and they are more environmentally safe.

We will be asking Elizabeth Urquiola to be the community member on the committee and is she is unable to be on the committee, the committee will then move to bring Nia Ogletree. It was motioned and second for Ms. Urquiola to be part of the committee.

Will update water sampling as information is given. The water quality web link: <https://www.leonschools.net/waterquality>. It was asked if the committee could give some ideas to use for water quality.

We will continue to work on the report for the school board.

Agenda items for the next meeting:

1. Making sure we provide the citizens with information that they are requesting
2. Energy reduction incentive information
3. Committee members visit some of the schools:
 - a. See an older school (Woodville K-8 and/or SAIL High) and a new school (Fairview Middle)

Meeting was adjourned at 5:07 pm by LaRoderick (Rod) McQueen.