

**HEALTHY AND GREEN
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP
MEETING MINUTES for
May 28, 2015**



1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Joe Richards

Present: Terri Allison, Mary Cox, Rob Duran, Mary Haffner, Lynn Harrison, Todd Jespersen, Dave Marshall, Chris Massa, Nancy Maxson, Kara Muniz, Joe Richards, Richard Saint, Jill Sarick, Deby Tygell and Kristie Wallace

2. SCHOOLSITE UPDATES FROM OUR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

None at his time.

3. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE OF GOALS

- **Reducing Waste/Environmental Education - Jill Sarick/Mary Haffner**

This year, the City of Ventura has combined the Dr. Rot and Captain Hydro programs and it was shared with all K-5 schools except J Serra, who did not choose to participate this year.

Jill was only able to reach eight of our K-5 schools with the cafeteria recycling program due to pulls from the City with the water shortage.

- **Health and Wellness Update – Kara Muniz/Katherine Martin/Nancy Maxson**

The Summer Nutrition food program begins Monday, June 13 through August 7, 2015 “Hunger does not get a Summer break!” Lunch time meals are available at approx. 28 sites throughout the County, this program feeds children aged 1-18 and also provides summer employment for our staff.

- **Integrated Pest Management – Richard Saint**

Things are going relatively well with the District’s IPM program especially now with the (Perk machine) a natural, non-poisonous method used for gopher extermination.

- **Sustainability in Construction – Terri Allison**

Every year, this program changes slightly and there are more and more options available with the added bonus of the cost ratio coming down. Building projects have been delayed, so the plans this summer are for maintenance projects. Drought tolerant landscaping projects are on the rise to educate and conserve water.

- **Energy Conservation - Joe Richards/Dave Marshall**

Updates on this committee are shared in section 4 and 5 below.

- **Environmental Preferable Purchasing - Mary Cox**

Mary shared that the District has E-waste recycling companies being used as fundraisers at the school sites. With the purchase of new technology, the older computers/equipment that are less energy efficient and are sent off to be recycled.

4. PROPOSTION 39 PROPOSED PROJECTS- Dave Marshall

Prop 39 is beginning its 3rd of a 5 year plan. It took almost a year for the administrators of the plan to organize and establish implementation. Our District allotment is \$1.6 million and additionally with incentives/rebates it comes up to project cost of really \$2.4 million. The higher energy use sites were targeted (BHS, VHS, VACE and FTHS) by implementing an HVAC replacement, which we are really due for and need. It will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions, which relates to taking 1393 automobiles off the road! Over 20 years, it will save us upwards of \$2 million. It is a savings of 897,818 Kilowatts a year on the four sites.

5. DISTRICTWIDE WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS – Richard Saint

Richard Saint of the Facilities Dept. shared with the group a Powerpoint with info that is about a month old and shows the severity of the drought we are in. Lake Casitas is at 50 % capacity, the Ventura River is at 10% flow volume and the ground water wells are at the lowest since recording began...

VUSD began 12 years ago in

- Installation of artificial turf in the BHS and VHS stadiums. We have saved 48 million gallons of water in just those two field conversions.

In the past 5 years:

- We have replaced decorative lawns with drought tolerant landscape.
- Irrigation systems have been updated as well to conserve water.
- Rain barrels for schools,
- In 2010 pool covers were installed reducing water evaporation and chemical use by up to 30%.
- Power washing is done only when necessary due to health and safety considerations.
- Pool decks cleaned by blowers rather than water.
- Reductions in irrigation schedules, from 3 to 2 time a week and time reduced by 30% which equates to about 50% in water savings.
- The recycling of our trees began in 2013 and they are ground into mulch and repurposed which reducing water evaporation up to 75%.
- We work closely with the City to further reduce our water use.
- Over 70, 000 square feet of lawn and marginal shrubs have been removed and replaced with drought tolerant alternatives.

NEXT MEETING DATE: 2015-16 School Year, with dates to be determined