

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A GREEN CITY  
MINUTES**

**November 19, 2008  
Gheens Academy Rm. 205-206  
4:30 – 5:30 p.m.**

Attendance: David Wicks, Kandris Goodwin, Betsy Ruhe, Heather Kemp, Jeffrey Liddle, Chris Pickering, Joan Shanahan, Matt Martin, Marcelle Gianelloni, Sherri Brown, Carol Gunderson, Molly Woofter, Kaki Robinson, Cathy Frauck, Brent Fryrear, Jerry Durall, Barbara Clark, Rachel Davis, Sue Green, Donna Griffin, Olivia Sailor, Nick Linares, Marcus Siu, Rosetta Fackler, Teddie Phillipson-Mower, Layne Greenwell.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm by Teddie Phillipson-Mower and Donna Griffin. Introductions were made.

I. New Business:

- a. “What should Environmental Educators know about Jefferson County” document: We would like for the EEC to come together to create this common project so that we can provide information that environmental educators would greatly benefit from knowing. Keep in mind what common questions you are asked about environmental education that you think would be important information to include in this document. The general purpose of this project is to communicate to the community or a particular population within the community the answers to common questions regarding environmental education. The members of the EEC’s various areas of expertise can combine to create an extensive amount of information.
  1. Through the brainstorming process the following ideas were generated:
    - Basic environmental information should be included: things everyone needs to know (about pollution, habitats), things that you can do with kids, such as: camping, fishing, youth summit and ways to integrate this into the curriculum. We could also include community resources: list people available to talk to about various environmental issues. Also, we could list various places you can go for resources, such as: Black Acre and Bernheim forest.
    - The way it’s used: It begins with a book, then classes are created from the book (they implement the information into classroom), then there is a pamphlet for the general public that leads back to the book and the classes.

- We could have links to the background of where the environmental education movement started, also links to resources, school partnerships, city government initiatives, and ideas that teachers can do with their students.
- A website that includes Environmental Principles and there is a hyperlink to information regarding each principle. This would provide resources to individuals so that they know what is out there and who is out there that they can utilize. We would structure this project into a three year plan:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Who provides the resources and what is available?
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: What can we do with this information?
  - 3<sup>rd</sup>: How is this information connected with core content?
- Take it beyond schools: We should provide Environmental knowledge that every citizen should know. This would include explaining what the roles of organizations are in the community. This would allow us to put ideas out there, and then provide training for various organizations in community. The purpose of the project would be to get Environmental information out to the average person in the public.
- We need to look at going beyond the knowledge and work on making connections that get people to be involved. Show people that their actions have consequences and help them understand and implement environmental literature into their lives.
- We should address what people need to know. Educate people about the basic processes in the environment such as sewer system, energy usage, idling cars, actions. Show the difference between organically and industrially grown foods. What happens to garbage? Are lawn chemicals safe? We need to answer essential questions, provide resources, and explain ways to teach it. It was also be beneficial to provide definitions and explanations for the acronyms and environmental terms that the public does not know or understand.
- The Group Consensus for the project includes creating a citizens or community focused document that includes content and is effective is pushing people to action. This document will also provide resources and a glossary of terms. We decided that the most conducive format would be Web-based. During the EEC Meeting on December

10 we will discuss and vote on the most organized and advantageous plan for the project.

- b. E.ON is focused on educating and increasing public awareness and understanding of the use of energy and climate change issues. If anyone is interested in being a part of this initiative contact David Wicks: [david.wicks@jefferson.kyschools.us](mailto:david.wicks@jefferson.kyschools.us).
- c. The State Environmental Literacy plan developed by the NAAEE involves the No Child Left Inside Act. It is a document that focuses on supporting Environmental Literacy and includes suggestions for incorporating this into school curriculums.

## II. Working Groups:

- a. Plastics working group met together shortly after the meeting to discuss options for the plastics project. The component missing from the Xtreme cleanup that we would like to adjust is the cleanup after the trash is collected. We would like create a volunteer group that focuses on recycling the plastics that are collected. We also decided that this would be a great learning opportunity for the classroom. Some of the plastics could be taken to schools and teachers could show the students the recycling process.

## III. Announcements

- a. We will be having an EEC meeting on December 10, 2008 in order to further develop the Environmental Literacy document.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. by Teddie Phillipson-Mower and Donna Griffin. The next meeting is December 10, 2008 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Gheens Academy.