

## Green Sword Meeting 10/6/2022

- North Andover: Joanna O'Connell: teacher from every school on board in elem schools. HS most challenging. Up to 6,200lbs. Rolling out more elem schools over next few weeks. need two weeks there to guide.
- Swampscott SWAC: Alix Smullin- new to committee. Building big new elem school- ensure recycling as part of design.
- East Longmeadow: Eliz Bone- wokr in elem school. Not much support from school or custodian. Mtg with school admin to discuss. Next school has eager custodians.
- Amy Donovan: 30 schools FC- challenges are schools that stopped composting during COVID. Presentation at beginning of program. Email to all with video about GT in Franklin Cty. Includes interview with custodian, kids, principal, teacher, Ann M, 9 minutes
- Irene C
- Melrose DPW Enviro Outreach, Alison Beucler, funding for composting to transition from pilot, need monitors and custodians
- Arlington: Rachel Oliveri, contamination issues, success involving students, CS credit and free snacks, 10 schools on her own. They do have the ear of the Supt.
- Lexington, Diane Pursley, started as volunteer, this year took job in MSs. Want continuity to make composting more consistent, "need to have" not "nice to have". Infrastructure to make happen. Will present to school committee, want sustainability champ in each school with stipend, they already have wellness champions. One SC member backs this.
- Salem: Janelle Rolke, new to position. Working with health and wellness coordinator who is very connected in the schools- trying to get composting district-wide. Some staff at Farm to School conf today.
- BPS, Ginny Leary, will implement FW coll at school as a compliance project- starting with largest HS. Waiting for contract with BEC to collect. She is setting up dates for waste audits, educ opportunity for students. Starting with Boston Green Academy.
- Methuen, Joe Cosgrove: New T&R advisory committee, 20 mbrs, subgroup for school educ. New trash cart program. Trying to build champions, 4, K-8 schools, some PTO on advisory comm. Resource issues. Interested in messaging used, Franklin Cty?
- Newton, Alison Kelly: 14K students in district, community group engagement, partnerships with school admin. Working w/facility staff to systematize, responsibilities part of staff contract to be able to rely less on volunteers. Would love a tool kit about how to work with custodial staff, school committees, supts. Divers group of supporters.
- Newton, Waneta Trabert: food waste adding in cafes. Hard to find green champions, bandwidth is very limited. Want positions with stipend. Adhere to WBs.
- Missy: meeting with School Supt tomorrow, many people involved. Tying in with teaching staff and dining director, food scraps to meals for local senior center as well as students.
- Rachel Smith, manages GT. Work with students more than policy issues.
- Wakefield, Melissa Eusden, volunteer committee. Middle School- getting perm signage. Working with Republic to do presentation in schools.
- Janice: RRR Microgrant: better than compostable is reusable. Maybe schools would be interested in applying. Look at RDP funds first. If little to no RDP \$\$, DEP would accept application.
- Heather Billings, CET, RW and GT. Resource to evaluate tray types, reduction in commercial WB will affect some schools. **Through RW, can now do onsite TA at schools.**

- Beverly SC, Lorinda Visnick: share table, composting in fits and starts, many food insecure students- goal is to support them. Working group principals, DPW, FSD focused on sustainability in schools, line item for composting and stipends. SPED teacher wants students to be monitors as part of workforce training. Went to all compostables to make it easier for kids and minimize contam in compostables.
- Webster, Kelsey Sanders FSD, new to her role. Also work with FtS and school garden, developing district-wide committee for sustainability, including horticultural. Goal to compost in elem schools.
- Winthrop, Wendy Millar-Page: 4 schools, one MS/HS combo and 2 elem. \$\$ is issue, interest, time
- Cambridge PW, Meryl Brott: ½ of schools back to composting, working on others
- Lynnfield RC, Patricia Fabbri: kicking off composting at HS with teacher leading. Looking at nice sorting stations. Want more info on compostable containers from DEP.
- Milton, Terecita: GTs at schools with sustainable Milton. Still not recycling in the schools.

### **Gail reviewed website resources**

Policy subgroup: Institutionalize, same rules, school WR policy is more expansive. Policy template-DRAFT. School sustainability champion. Meeting notes in one document.

Transitioning from Single Use to Reusable FSW: Focus on dishwashers, trays, plates, Session as part of RRR palooza. Looking for m unis to highlight. Janice- consider milk dispensers too!

Composting: Educate about WB changes, food waste estimator on RW. (*Does DEP have a list of composting businesses? RWorks link*) From Amy D. @kathi mirza - maybe we could compile a list of purchasing collaboratives to make sure all those in the state have (the right type of) compostables on their bids.

### Program Kick-Off and Events:

ARD Ideas:

- Competition between grades, separate by grade, monitors, least contamination, win something
- Skit, song, play, video
- Textile collection
- Backpack express- send notes home in Cambridge- recycle flyer, also newsletters