

FARM TO SCHOOL MEETING, 23 OCT 2006, 3-4:30 PM, 9R Admin Bldg

ATTENDING: Marcus Renner, Katrina Blair, Linda Daniel, Shari Fitzgerald, Jim Dyer

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Katrina reported that she will have a new growing dome greenhouse at her place up Junction Creek, and that she is quite interested in promoting “organic lawns of Durango.” Jim agreed to help with that idea.

Shari reported that she would like to have reviewers to help craft the main messages from the Community Food Assessment report being finalized in November. Her e-mail is:  
<fitzandshari@yahoo.com>

Linda Daniel of the Southern Ute Academy had four items:

- She spoke of the EPA’s pesticide listings related to growth and development of children – she will get us the website for that info.
- The 22 foot growing dome greenhouse is under construction at the Academy, and will include a wide variety of plants.
- The Academy (120 students) is interested in getting sprouts and other greens from Turtle Lake for their lunches, and has made arrangements with the new Roadrunner Transit service for delivery.
- During her presentation of the Wellness Policy to the Council, the Council expressed interest in offering meat from their bison herd to area schools. Bison is the only red meat served at the Academy. Linda will be in touch with the food service directors in the area to discuss this offer, and we hope to hold a Farm to School meeting soon in Ignacio with a bison tasting event. That date has not yet been set.

OUR NEW WEBSITE:

As a committee of the Sustainability Alliance of SW Colorado (SASCO) we now have a website location. Go to [www.sustainableSWcolorado.org](http://www.sustainableSWcolorado.org), click on Food, Agr, & Farm to School, then Farm to School. Or go directly to: [www.sustainablecolorado.org/farm\\_to\\_school.htm](http://www.sustainablecolorado.org/farm_to_school.htm)  
So far we have posted our mission and goals, web links, and all of our minutes of the regular and the outreach committee meetings. We will be adding much more info and welcome your suggestions.

9R REPORT:

Katrina reported that they had just made the second weekly delivery of mung bean sprouts, buckwheat lettuce, pea greens, and sunflower greens to 9R for 7 schools. Although the amount is small, the nutritional value and educational value is large. More salad bars are planned soon. Shari will work with Katrina and Krista on small posters, and Jim will contact Karla Sluis about publicity.

Jim relayed comments from Krista Garand:

I was excited to share the success of the mung beans and pea shoots and sunflower greens we received from Katrina. It went really well. I was out in the kitchens quite a bit this week making sure everyone talked about our products from Turtle Lake. I informed principals to try to put it in their newsletters etc.

Michael Brennan sent comments about the implementation of the Wellness Policy:

Last week, I met with each principal to talk about wellness teams in each of their schools and was greeted with strong support. The three pilot sites, Escalante, Needham, and Animas Valley, have strong teams in place and are moving on with wellness plans. The others need to form teams, but Fort Lewis is a recipient of a wellness grant and has a structure already in place. I have also invited transportation dept. to get involved and the admin. building is forming a team Monday.

The focus of the wellness teams will be to first evaluate where their school or site is at, using the wellness action plan to measure their status. Second, the teams will select goals when they see the missing holes in nutrition, nutrition education, and physical activity.

Lastly, the teams will implement their plans and report to Jaynee and Jenny, who can provide some support for materials and supplies.

Jayne Fontecchio-Spradling also sent comments:

Please let folks know that we are working with all schools on policy implementation and are planning a training for the school contact/point person on Nov. 9th. We have a team of 8 (it's a miracle!) going to Denver on Nov. 3rd to be trained on policy implementation.

FLC FARM TO COLLEGE:

Marcus announced the Hunger Banquet at Ft Lewis will be 14 November — an opportunity for outreach about food systems. He is also looking for advisors for the Environmental Center's garden. Marcus can be reached at: [RENNER\\_M@fortlewis.edu](mailto:RENNER_M@fortlewis.edu)

The Environmental Center is working on an all-local dish in the CUB as a feature in November and is looking for local foods available at that time.

The Farm to College group is researching 10 colleges across the country with successful programs.

Planning for the local food event next Spring is on-going within our Outreach and Planning Committee.

NEXT MEETING: 13 November -- location to be announced, most likely at the 9R Admin Building.

Thanks

Jim