

## **NOTES OF FARM TO SCHOOL MEETING 16 Feb 2006, 3-4:40 PM, 9R HS Cafeteria, DURANGO**

**ATTENDING:** Nicole Smith, Kent Rector, Jan Blanchard, Kim Cotta, Shari Fitzgerald, Marcus Renner, Elaine Kerrigan, Amy Foster, Bill Manning, Sherri Wormser, Bliss Bruen, Linda Daniel, Jim Dyer.

**FIELD TRIP:** Kim gave us a nice tour of the HS cafeteria. Some of us were surprised to hear that on average only 300 of the 1200 students purchase lunch.

### **REPORTS:**

Kay James and Kim Cotta were featured in a 10 Feb KSUT news story about Farm to School. To read or hear the story, go to [www.ksut.org](http://www.ksut.org), click KSUT Regional on the right, find the story on 10 Feb (it starts talking about the smoking ban). Or go directly to [www.publicbroadcasting.net/ksut/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE\\_ID=877123](http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/ksut/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE_ID=877123)

Great job Kay & Kim!

Bliss reported that food and ag is emerging as very important topic in the visioning process surveys received so far.

Kim indicated that the 9R wellness policy group is preparing a draft for the cabinet with the "Community Input Meeting", an open forum, scheduled in later April. We will notify you of the exact date, time, and location.

Elaine reported that the Ignacio Wellness Policy group is currently working on draft physical activity standards.

Kim reported that Durango HS will be trying a salad bar for 3 weeks starting 1 March. They will be gathering data on sales, waste, and comments from students.

Jim read a very informative e-mail about snack activities from Katrina which is copied below these minutes.

Jim read a note from Dave James proposing a field activity for Needham students of planting clover at their ranch. Jim will have Dave contact Shari and Nicole to help coordinate this event.

Shari announced the Food Assessment Project's "First Community Forum" to be held 28 Feb at the SunUte Community Center in Ignacio from 6-9 PM. I will send details in a separate e-mail soon.

### **OUTREACH DISCUSSION:**

Jan reviewed an overview she has prepared of the outreach opportunities for Farm to School (attached) and led a discussion.

Marcus indicated that the Ft Lewis College Environmental Center is willing to help with an outreach campaign, and pointed to their Earth Week (27 Mar-1 Apr) as one upcoming opportunity.

Bliss explained how sustainability is being proposed as a cornerstone of the new Durango comprehensive plan, so that may open some possibilities for us.

On a suggestion from Marcus, we agreed to establish the objectives and intended audiences for our outreach. Once we have them in hand, we plan to approach the Durango Herald and other local papers for help in outreach about Farm to school -- with a target date of the end of March.

To reach parents, it was suggested that information might go in the "Friday Folders" that go home with students.

An outreach committee was formed including Shari, Marcus, Sherri, Amy, Bliss, Jim, and Jan as chair.

Thanks to all who attended this productive meeting.

Jim Dyer

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FROM KATRINA

Jim,

I am sorry to have to miss the meeting on Thursday... I will be in Denver helping to move my grandad to Durango.

I wanted to update you about a few things...

1) The Needham Health Snack Program went well. Turtle Lake Refuge along with Mrs. Wilson's 5th grade class made a delicious Hermosa Cherry Cobbler for 500 students. The kids loved it and came back for seconds and thirds. We used the bicycle blender for grinding the oats and seeds and cherries. The kids pitted two gallons of cherries effortlessly.

2) Due to a contact from Jaynee, on Valentine's Day I went to the Animas Valley School and Mrs. Tucker's first grade class made healthy fruit smoothies with the bike blender instead of serving cookies and candy for the V-day party. The Herald came and took some photos.

3) Animas Valley School invited me (and especially the blender) back for a parent/kid/teacher health fair on April 19th.

4) I submitted the General Mills Champion Grant for potential education around local food in the schools for next years classes. The principals and

health/PE teachers of Needham, Miller and Escalante were enthusiastic about it.

5) Linda Daniels of the Southern Ute Indian Academy in Ignacio is integrating local organic food in her lunch program for her 150 students. She has ordered pea greens, sunflower greens and mixed bean sprouts from Turtle Lake Refuge for next week lunches.

Hope all goes well with the meeting. Look forward to checking in with you when I return.

Many blessings,  
Katrina