

Farm to School Meeting Minutes

3-4:30 PM, 10 April 2006, Needham Elementary Cafeteria

Minutes by Katy Pepinsky

PERSONS ATTENDING:

KATRINA BLAIR, Turtle Lake Refuge – just did sprouting activity with S. Ute Academy,
KAY JAMES, James Ranch - is offering Farm Tours currently,
KATY PEPINSKY, Growing Partners,
LINDA DANIELS, S. Ute Academy – working on installing their greenhouse,
MARYE JACKSON, Shared Harvest,
SHERRI WORMSER, Chef,
BLISS BRUEN, Grass Roots Visioning Process,
MARCUS RENNEN, Ft. Lewis EC,
SHARI FITZGERALD, Garden Project – Why Save Agriculture meetings in Red Mesa update,
WENDY RICE, CSU Cooperative Extension – Healthy Eating/Living Grant (COPAN) – Local Assessment taking place currently, &
KIM COTTA, Director of Food and Nutrition 9-R – Have the DHS salad bar up and running – positive response from students! Just finalized their menu today and she will bring it to the next meeting for comments – this will go to print in July – breakfast and lunch. She currently has high food costs and needs to do something about it. She is working with staff to fix the cost issue. She will have budget numbers in June. She needs support of superiors for farm-to-school salad bars.

- FTS needs to determine how much local food would cost to put on the salad bar. An 8 oz salad = 4 - 5oz protein, the rest veggies. \$200/week is what she is paying currently.
 - o Figure these out separately on a local scale.
- 9” oval platter.
- *Convincing kids to stay at school for lunch.*
- Kim wants to do an ALL STAFF BREAKFAST in the fall with ALL LOCAL PRODUCTS.
- Liability insurance?? For staff breakfast isn't a concern, but for other school food, Kim isn't sure... she hasn't had to look into it yet.
- **Hand out Kim's local product list at next week's FM meeting** – Apr 19 at the Fair Grounds.

3:12 Meeting called to order by Shari Fitzgerald.

3:00 Welcome & meeting overview

3:10 Intros and brief reports around the table, including wellness policy updates from each district and nutrition meeting reports.

3:30 Report from Planning & Outreach Committee & discussion — Marcus

MARCUS: Short and long-term outreach needs. Focused on long-term needs last week to concentrate on strategic planning.

- Goals have been adjusted due to feedback.
- What is now written is a strategic outreach plan.
- Only major change was to Goal 6.
- Kay mentioned James Ranch is putting together a PowerPoint presentation on local foods for local, lunch programs. She suggests inviting these people (*Rotary, Lions*) to the schools for lunch to acquaint them with the school lunch program.
 - o Kim mentioned this wouldn't work for her until after October.

- Get the movers and shakers into the schools.
- Checking folks into the school while attending lunch is important.
 - Kim said let her know if you are coming in large numbers... that way she can have enough food on hand.
- Group approved the way the philosophy was written.
- Wendy added the restaurant association to work with as a key audience.
- LONG TERM from SHORT TERM
 - Dividing efforts and identifying the needs and opportunities and putting them into short and long term initiatives.
 - SHORT:
 - Wellness meeting, April 26
 - OHC Summit
 - Ignacio Greenhouse Fundraiser, April 21
 - Reaching out to producers and getting a list of their products & costs – Katrina brought up subsidizing the program – Bliss said this could be the city.
 - Fresh, frozen, canned price comparison – both GP and Wendy working on this.
 - Shari – surveys are an ability to do outreach.
 - FM Meeting – April 19, Jim could talk about FTS??
 - Food Editor articles in Durango Herald – Shari is following up about a series of articles, Karla, the food editor is involved – GOAL in the fall, when school is back in session and harvest is happening.
 - Research – policy, funding sources, other examples of FTS programs and their outreach efforts.
 - Unique aspects of La Plata County that would make our plan look different.
 - LONG:
 - Brainstorm activities for each of the goals of FTS for the long term (3-5 years):
 - Ex. Farm Tours

* MAY 10, 3-4:30 Next Planning & Outreach committee meeting. 9-R Conference Room.
Send ideas to Marcus if you can't make the meeting.

3:50 Community Food Assessment update: Teacher Survey — Shari

- Shari's teacher and administrator surveys for review – wanted to give to FTS group, b/c it's a FTS survey. Using it as an educational tool to educate teachers and admin about FTS.
- Will be a per/school survey, sent out to principals, and one key person would answer the survey for each school.
- Send it OUT ASAP – to Jaynee Fontecchio-Spradling for distribution.
- Teacher survey needs the most input for educational/outreach blurbs – would like that input.
- Kim could help circulate the survey.
- Wendy suggested sending it out the secretary, not the principals since they are overwhelmed.
 - Send it out ASAP and give them as much time as possible to fill it out.

4:00 Discussion of Draft 9R Wellness Policy

Kim is just starting to receive comments about school lunch – that veggies are mushy, not enough fresh, too much processed food.

- She thinks that the overall Wellness Policy is getting a good review.
- Wendy brought up to look at hours of health/nutrition education/year. Pp. 13-14.
- Shari – nutritional education section mentioned farm/health educational activities were mentioned. Farm Tours, hands-on activities. Pg. 12.

Shari brought up the point that there is nothing written about evaluating the program.
