



**WELLNESS**  
ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Peak to Peak Charter School

## **Wellness Advisory Council Meeting**

December 5, 2017

**Attendees:** Erin Manzanares, Christie French, Monika Bunting, Vicki Lundquist, Jessy Rozitis, Cheryl Sack, Dale Eckhart (Eco Cycle), Lisa Amerine, Jeri Chandler, John Wilcox, and Kelly Reeser

**Informational session about recycling and composting** - presented by Monika Bunting and Dale Eckhart from Eco-Cycle.

Dale Eckhart introduced himself and explained Eco Cycle organization. Dale's role: educate people and pick up discarded items. Composting and recycling.

Monika provided an overview: [Link to Overview Presentation](#)

- Short video shown about energy usage and the importance of conservation. Part of climate solution includes reducing food waste. New term: "Consumption emissions." Smokestacks, fuel, food /packaging waste. Zero waste is a goal.
  - Reduce
  - Reuse
  - Recycle
- Question: What are we doing now for recycling? Bins in every classroom, ServiceMaster empties the bins daily. Larger bins are in back of the school. Suggestion: it would be nice to have a resource to re-norm kids every year. Kid video to teach what can be recycled.
- Questions: What other schools in BVSD have composting? Are they willing to share? Yes, and Monika has list of tips from other BVSD schools. Dale recommends visiting other schools to get ideas and see how it works. 37 out of 52 BVSD schools are composting. Schools have a variety of solutions and approaches and we could learn from any of them.
- Question: With respect to recycling/composting, how do schools handle contamination in recycling and composting bins? Answer: Whether you are recycling or composting, don't expect perfection. Those who receive the composting/recycling are accustomed to dealing with a certain level of "contamination" before it goes to market. Making things as easy and convenient as possible is the key. Guidelines exist, but ultimately the most

important thing is to avoid “bad products,” which are film plastics (rubber gloves, potato chip bags, etc.).

- Things that help prevent contamination: education about “how” to do this; signage (colors, shapes, lids, signage with shapes, not words). In Dale’s experience, the placement of the bins is the most important factor (i.e. the system must be convenient).
- Discussion about obstacles to implementation at P2P:
  - Cost of bags (estimate is at least double the current cost for trash bags)
  - Human power to move the bags (and their contents) outside
  - Recycling practices have not been consistent in the past (effort starts with gusto and then fizzles out; custodians end up picking up the work).
- What’s worked in other schools?
  - Education on an ongoing basis
  - Developing systems to sustain the program
  - Set expectations every year; incorporate character education about purpose of program.
  - Kids from some P2P clubs are currently interested in doing this.
- Next step: improve signage on current recycling bins
  - Grants? We could explore, but we can’t depend on this for sustainability
  - Dale is willing to consult with the school/design systems that will work.
  - Problem solving: teachers can be innovative and come up with creative solutions
  - Assign work to a person/group at every grade level
  - Write into teacher duties for leadership position to ensure sustainability

### **Junk the Junk**

- Erin will repeat 5-day challenge issued by email from last year. She will meet with Cheryl Sack to coordinate first steps. Thinking of sending to full community this year, not just staff.