Ottawa Catholic School Board:
Environmental Action Committee

February 26, 2009

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Goals for this Session

1. Identify the different members of the Ottawa Catholic School Board’s Environmental Action Committee.
2. Describe the role each member plays on the committee, including their part in the planning of the CODE project
3. Role play a scenario as a committee member
4. Provide an overview of our CODE project and ideas shared
5. Consider next steps for your board’s Environmental Team
Environmental Action Committee

Title
Superintendent
Principals (P/J, I, S)
Consultants
Physical Plant & Facilities
Purchasing
Board Web Master
Teachers (P/J, I/S)
Parent
Diocese

Role
• ensure high profile, full board support
• share messages
• curricular perspectives
• waste, energy use data, new building
• enviro friendly products
• sharing with community
• involvement with students
• home connections
• parish and faith connections
Why Now?...

- Known as the ‘Roberta Bondar’ report on Environmental Education in Ontario Schools
- Result has been an adoption of all of the working group’s recommendations
- Impacts every grade and curriculum area
- A draft environmental policy framework has been sent to all boards
- Your EAC is responding to this
CODE Project for

- Build on existing practices
- Respect recommendations of report
- Expand the reach of our school reps
- Improve our outdoor experiences
Prior to Day 1 – survey sent out

Where are we right now?

Survey Results:
77% practice monitor shut-off
85% completed a yard clean up

Great Ideas:
compost for school gardens
clean up of skate park that we use
Eco footprint challenge out to all families
contest on Earth Day – class producing least garbage that day won
worm composting in classroom
decorate paper grocery bags, back to store for customers
to be aware of enviro friendly practices
recycling cell phones and ink cartridges
repair of electronics

Where are you right now?
How the environment lives for our students.....

Note: all documents now stored in the environmental action conference.
Day 1: EcoSchools & Energy Mgmt (May 14)

Planning team: physical plant & facilities, purchasing, curriculum, administration, teachers, diocese

Topics: ecoSchools, energy use, recycling, Electronic sharing and resources
Resources for every school:

Environmental Education
Scope and Sequence of Expectations

The Ontario Curriculum
Grades 1-8

Science and Technology
Day 2: Outdoor Environmental Education (Oct)

Planning team: curriculum, administration, parent, teachers, diocese

Topics: outdoor education in school yards and beyond; resources; on-site at schools
Outdoor Experiences...in the school yard, nearby parks, Greenbelt areas...linked to the curriculum in the arts, PE, science-technology, religion, french, social studies, language arts, math...

Planning time to build into school day
RAFT Table work:
A group has arrived at your EAC, and is presenting to you on the topic of student led battery recycling.

R.A.F.T.
You will assume a role on our EAC. Your audience will be the other members of the EAC at your table. Your format will be discussion and presentation. Your topic is battery recycling. What do you recommend?
Battery Recycling in Schools

- Partner with schools
- Students collect batteries in special pails
- Company picks up pails of used batteries and brings to recycling plant
- Metals recovered
- $ to schools
On-going Environmental Projects – our own Ready Set Green!

• During the sharing stages of our two half days, each school representative provided an overview of one local project
• Many of these ideas are now continuing in other schools across Ottawa
• Projects involve many different grades
• Sites vary from school yards, to local communities, and even other countries
Earth Day in Ottawa

- Prayer or Liturgy
- Earth Day activities:
  - register your school with city http://www.ottawa.ca/residents/environment/community/springcleaning/index_en.html
  - school yard clean-ups
  - complete ecological footprint
  - reduce energy use
  - more ideas will be posted into Environmental Action folder (path in First Class: conferences, programs, student success, environmental action – right click, drag to ‘add to desktop’)

EARTH DAY
a wake-up call for the environment

Speakers
Food
Music
Theatre
Art
Fun for kids
More!

Parliament Hill
2:00 PM
April 22nd

The time is ours. Speakers will be present from various environmental, labour, and social groups, and enjoy theatre, music, information, food, and family-friendly fun! For more information see EarthDayOTT.org

Bring a bell and come sound a wake up call on climate change and the environment!

Organized by the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition and Endorsed by Climate Action Network, envelope Canada, the Climate Change Coalition, Sierra Youth Coalition, Sierra Club, Ontario Federation of Labour, Streets are for People, CUPE, Toronto Environmental Alliance, CUPE Ontario, Alliance for Social Change and many more
Macoun Marsh: an outdoor classroom
Jean Vanier, Notre Dame, All Saints

Hosting Second World Youth Biodiversity Symposium
http://www.biodiversitymatters.org/
SeeEarth Project

- partnership with Algonquin College
- 14 high schools (8 of ours)
- 14 teachers, each leading a group of grade 9 students in a one week project (July 2008)
- this group leading a school-based eco-project for the 2008-2009 school year
- 2009-2010 all other high schools

http://www.algonquincollege.com/see-earth/leaders.htm
Lynh Nguyen, a Grade 5 student, has fun at recess with her classmates at St. Anthony’s school on Booth Street. The school has the dubious distinction of having the ‘ugliest’ schoolyard in the region.

St. Anthony’s the ‘ugliest’ schoolyard of them all

Winner of contest gets money to make grounds greener

BY TOM SPEARS

year.
The view in one direction is blocked by the school’s wall, and on another side is a neighbour’s yard with a guard dog. On the other two sides there’s traffic on Booth Street and Gladstone Avenue, “and it looks like a bit of a wasterand generally green up their grounds. Today she sees some improvements, but says they need more planting. Ms. Splinter agrees. “It almost broke our hearts” to see all the desolate schoolyards, she said. “You had to really feel for them. What

JULIE OLIVER, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN
School Yard Greening: St. Anthony’s, Ottawa
Outdoor Environmental Education: Holy Spirit
Christmas light exchange: 2 old strings for one new string of LED lights

Partnership between Hydro Ottawa and Ottawa Catholic Schools
Environmentally themed note cards

These cards are great to send to everyone and in the process you send a message to care for our environment. Please help us spread this message by purchasing a package or two of our cards. (12 cards for $10)

Children are our future!

Holy Cross Catholic School
More sharing

First Class Environmental Action Conference

folders

general messages
Give and Get......
Thank you!