

# Readington Township School District Green Committee

Wednesday, September 14, 2016  
Minutes

Present: Eric Zwerling, Don Race, Chris Allen, Cheryl Filler, Jodi Bettermann, Ann DeRosa, Steve Foster, Sarah Pauch, Sharon Moffat, Barbara Sargent

1. Presentation by Jodi Bettermann

Jodi reviewed the last 6 months of Year 4 results of energy savings and discussed the transition to the new energy tracking software. She shared that WHS is now eligible for Energy Star status. The district was awarded a Sustainable Hunterdon Award from HART and a \$4000 NJ DOH Grant for a soft fitness room at RMS. Jodi, Don Race, Kristen Higgins, and Ann DeRosa will present at the NJ Science Convention and NJ School Boards Conference in October. Ann and Don have a poster presentation for the NJSBA conference.

Building	% Change Electric	% Change Nat Gas	% Change Total Energy (BTU)	% Change Electric Demand	6 months Avoided Cost
Holland Brook	(24)%	6%	(5)%	(15)%	<b>\$17,842</b>
Readington Middle	(26)%	(14)%	(19)%	(17)%	<b>\$28,441</b>
Three Bridges	(18)%	(6)%	(9)%	(12)%	<b>\$8,473</b>
Whitehouse	(21)%	(7)%	(11)%	(16)%	<b>\$9,583</b>
Grand Total	<b>(23)%</b>	<b>(5)%</b>	<b>(11)%</b>	<b>(15)%</b>	<b>\$64,338</b>

2. Solar Update by Don Race

Paper review is complete and engineers will begin to visit the school sites to plan for springtime installment of solar panels and arrays.

3. Possible purchase of biodegradable cafeteria utensils

The committee reviewed the benefits and cost of replacing plastic and Styrofoam plates and utensils with biodegradable products. This became a larger discussion about composting in the cafeterias (The K-5 schools are composting student lunch waste only.) and whether the district should explore trash removal that includes compost. This would allow the district to fully compost.

4. Homework for next meeting:

- Don Race will explore cost for waste removal where compost is included;
- Barb Sargent will study organizations that will help schools deliver extra food (yogurt, apples, etc.) to local food banks;
- Barb and Helpers will review the cost of having Maschio's provide an additional staff member to wash dishes at each school building, and metal utensils and plastic trays for all schools.
- Ann DeRosa will (springtime) create an advertisement for the local newspaper to offer surplus compost for pickup.

