



July 2010

News from the MCSEEP Director

I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer. I can't believe that school will be back in session in less than a month! I have been busy working on the scheduling of environmental education lessons at McHenry County schools. Your lesson dates will be sent out in early August addressed to Principal and Recycling Coordinator. Please keep an eye out for this, as you will need to go into our online scheduling system and put your dates in, so that I can assign a teacher and get it on the online calendar. I would like to ask you all to do this the **beginning of the school year**, so I can get all participating schools on the calendar with completed schedules. If you need to make an adjustment with your schedule, please contact me by email:

slburke@co.mchenry.il.us

and I will edit your schedule before our teacher comes out to your school. If your school is unable to have lessons on the assigned date/dates, please contact me ASAP, so we can find alternate dates and give your dates to other schools. I really appreciated how most schools this year did have their Principal/Recycling Coordinator complete their schedules at the beginning of the school year, as it made it much easier for our staff. You need to make note of the time that is needed for each



grade lesson topic and try to allow enough time for our teachers. (You will find the times listed on the lesson topics when scheduling and also in the letter that I'll be mailing out in August.) It is important that you leave 10 minutes in-between classes so that our teachers have time to disassemble materials from one lesson and set up materials for the next one. You must give our teachers at least a 30 min. lunch break if they are scheduled for more than a half-day. I will be mailing out instructions on how to schedule your classes. That website can still be found at:

http://www.mchenry.k12.il.us/environment_signup.cfm

You will be accessing our website to schedule lessons by going to:

mcseep.com

as we will no longer be found on the Regional Office of Education's website. We have grown (especially with the addition of our new lesson/resource library) too large for our current location and will soon be sharing office space with the county's

Planning and Development Department. Any mailed correspondence to us will now be addressed as follows: **MCSEEP, Planning and Development, 2200 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock, IL 60098.**

Please note that you will also be receiving a registration form for our Lesson Library launch included with your scheduling dates, so watch for this as well, so you can take part in this event being held September 30th from 8:30-11:30 a.m. CPDU's will be given for attending, so if you are a teacher, you might want to find a sub for your morning schedule. (See Lesson Library article for more information.)

Our teachers this school year will be as follows:

Peg Pappa, Karen Dombrowski, Carolyn Sullivan, and Lois Johnson. Please welcome them into your classrooms once again, as they have valuable information to share with you and your students.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to teaching in the McHenry County schools again in the upcoming 2010-11 school year.

Current Events

Vintage Tech Recyclers—From May 30th-September 15th, all Chicago land schools will be able to recycle all electronic items with Vintage Tech Recyclers free of charge. This program includes a free pickup, free recycling, and free certificate of recycling for all tracking and inventory needs. Schools recycling under this program must schedule a pickup before September 5th and have at least 30 main items to be recycled. All schools under this program must be located within one of the following counties: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. This offer is for a limited time only, so schedule your pickup today!

Green Drinks –gathers the first Wednesday of every month upstairs at Duke's Alehouse and Kitchen, 110 N. Main St., Crystal Lake, IL. Come talk about "greening" the future with others. Bring any information about your green products and services to share. For more local green drinks information contact:

The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County at 815-338-0393.

Green Guide –The new 2010 issue of the Green Guide came out April 22 in the Northwest Herald. This publication has a wealth of information on where to recycle items, and much more. To get an online version of this guide you can go to:

<http://www.mchenry.edu/recycling/greenguide.pdf>

LESSON LIBRARY

We've got a date! Our lesson library launch is scheduled for Thursday, September 30th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We are inviting school principals, recycling coordinators, media specialists, curriculum directors and teachers. The workshop will provide instructions on how to take advantage of the wonderful resources our library has to offer. That morning it will also be our pleasure to introduce the professionals from Siemens that made it all possible. Library resources will be displayed and available for check out. All in attendance will earn 3 CPDU's. There will be some free materials to pick up, raffle items to win, and cake to enjoy!



Start making plans to clear your schedule or get a substitute now, and join us for this informative and fun morning. Registration information for this event will be included with your MCSEEP lesson scheduling packet.



MCSEEP LESSON UPDATES

As the school year comes to a close, we'd like to thank all the teachers that completed our lesson evaluation forms. This feedback is definitely taken into consideration as we update our curriculum. Last summer we revised several grade levels. The revisions reflected our desire to increase lesson content and to include an assessment of the material taught. Our 5th grade lesson revisions are well underway. We're also busy trying to condense the volume of information regarding the Gulf of Mexico oil spill in order to appropriately respond to questions from the students. Since April, we have been collecting the factual news articles on this environmental disaster. You will be able to access these articles in PDF form from our lesson library article section. We're looking forward to seeing you in September!

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to get better. It's not."

-Dr. Seuss, from The Lorax



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT



Does your school have an environmental story or picture that you'd like to share? We'd love to hear what your school is doing to help the environment. Please send a brief story and a picture if you have one and I will use it in this section to recognize your school. Send any articles and/or pictures to:

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