**Place-Based Education Committee Meeting 11/27/2017 - Notes**

**Location- Keene Middle School Library**

**10 people present**

While we waited for all to arrive- Looked over “Tips for Outdoor Teaching” and added any that are not covered (eventually this will go on the website)

**Quick introductions/Share**- upcoming winter/spring events were shared

Sustainability Project- SEED Celebration and Sustainability Fair,  10th of February- at the Hannah Grimes Center - We could have a poster/flier there. Or people from the PBEd committee could possibly be speakers

A PLC (Professional Learning Community) will be offered to every K teacher in Keene- “Taking Kindergarten Outside” - 6 X Once per month, through Antioch

Monadnock Progressive Alliance- Tuesday meeting - *The Best Day Ever*- a film about outdoor classrooms, will be shown in Norwich,  could show at Colonial eventually,  The Monadnock Progressive Alliance is very focused on early education and making sure play-based learning happens in the classroom

Tracking Walk- Feb 4th- on the KMS boardwalk

**Newspaper Articles** -

* Update about Keene Sentinel article about nature writing we did

<http://www.sentinelsource.com/features/education/quick_studies/keene-middle-school-students-draw-inspiration-from-the-great-outdoors/article_eadd09f7-0766-56db-8424-666877c34d4e.html>

* Ideas for other articles we can write

Environmental Science class at KHS, Jessica Arrow at Symonds, - Forest Friday-

K serves as pilot for entire Symonds School

Willow- Resiliency in homes and neighborhoods

**Facebook and Website update -**

* Facebook: search for “Place based Education in the Monadnock Region”
  + Let’s get more likes! (invite interested friends)

“Place-based Education in the Monadnock Region” “Invite your friends”

If you have anything you would like to post on the facebook page let Jennie or Betsy know. ([bstacey@sau29.org](mailto:bstacey@sau29.org))

Website: <http://monadnockpbe.weebly.com/>

Discussion of the website included the following

* Showed website on the big screen
* Need more  resources from educators- especially Lesson Plans from teachers

Suggestions for other contacts/resources to include on the website include

* UNH Cooperative Extension- Steve Roberge- State Forester
* USDA Amanda Littleton- Jeff Littleton-
* CCCD- Cheshire County Conservation District
* Quests
* Goodby - Archaeology in area- Monadnock Archaeological
* Katherine Koning- Franklin Pierce
* Make sure we include Arts, Social Studies, Storytelling-
* Overall, any feedback or comments on facebook/website so far
* Local Lesson Plans- look at links from other places
* Jen Kramer’s lesson plans-
* Doesn’t always have to be outside
* Keene Comes Alive- 3rd grade- this is Place-based, could we serve as a consultant, Colonialism, could include more about Native Americans, this program reaches a large population of kids, Lion’s Club

The website led to a conversation about how to reach more people in more schools and organizations. This discussion included

* Contacting elementary and high school faculty meeting or principals - Trinity Waldorf, Surry, MC2, LEAF school,

**Contact List** - on google sheets with member emails and place of work

* Group permission to share this with committee members?
* Can add anyone who would be interested
* We will use this for any committee correspondence

For now we will use this document to keep up our contact list, no need to share it at this point.

**Update from Antioch-** Paul

-MEd in Foundations of Education, Place-based Education

Experience Educators program at Antioch has a new concentration, collaboration with Teton Science School

**Grant Update** - Betsy and Paul

* Cedar Foundation Grant (already turned in) will hear before December 15th**\***
* McCarthy Dressman Foundation Grant (Due January 15th- window closes at 350 applicants) review of meeting - Carol Menke Keefe, Jenna Carroll, Betsy Stacey, Don Woodman, Paul Bocko

and ideas (handed out summary and quickly discussed. See below . )

**\***Note- we found out after the meeting that we did not receive this grant, so we will move forward to focus on the McCarthy Dressman grant.

**McCarthey - Dressman Education Foundation**

Grant Proposal Narrative

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **Describe project - how will it contribute to “development of participating teachers”**.   Monadnock Region Place-based Teaching and Learning is a project of the Monadnock Region Place-based Education Committee. The project’s purpose is to provide place-based professional development to Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 teachers in order to support students’ academic achievement and increase the level of teacher and student participation as citizens. The Place-based Education Committee’s mission is to expand place-based education in New Hampshire’s Monadnock Region.  Regional teachers will be recruited to propose place-based education projects that address curriculum standards and engage students in real-world community projects. Participating teachers will develop unit plans according to place-based learning principles and partner with regional organizations to help engage students in local environmental, cultural, and historical activities. Teachers will be coached throughout the school year by more experienced committee members and experts from Antioch University New England.  We request funding for professional development activities that will unfold over three years. Each year teachers will gather at three summer collaborative planning meetings designed to guide teachers to develop projects for the coming school year. The funding will be used for recruiting teacher participants, curriculum writing and planning, and field trips to regional organizations in order to receive local information from experts and to create strong partnerships for school year activities. Field visits will be tailored to participants based on specific projects developed by teachers. During each school year, teachers will participate in coaching sessions with experts from the Place-based Education Committee and Antioch University New England. Student field trips to regional organizations and in-class support by organization staff members will be a core component of project development and coaching activities. Participating teachers will present the successes and challenges of completed projects at the spring meeting of the Place-based Education Committee. Activities will be specifically designed to guide participating teachers to overcome barriers to innovative teaching, design place-based learning experiences, and still meet school district determined learning expectations.  Regional partners include the Harris Center for Conservation Education, Horatio Colony House Museum & Nature Preserve, the Sustainability Project, Antioch University New England Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience, Cheshire County Historical Society,  Mount Monadnock Ecological Research and Education project, and Monadnock Conservancy. The Place-based Education Committee’s membership includes pioneers of place-based and nature-based early childhood learning. Committee members’ combined experience and partnership with Antioch University New England uniquely position us to work with teachers to enhance their professional growth in order to meet learning outcomes and engage students in real-world community activities. |