**Place Based Educators Meeting 9/25/2017 3:45 PM**

**Keene Middle School Library**

Sam Sintros, Jennie Friedman, Seth Andrews, Willow Nilsen, Liza Lowe,Mary Grove, Jessica Arrow, Peter Siegel, Lenoir MacDougal, Miranda Nelken, Jenna Spear, Carol Menke Keefe, Paul Bocko, Betsy Stacey, Walter Huston

**Share**- What is happening in place-based ed in the district that we might be able to share in articles in the Keene Sentinel or other places (Jennie Friedman, Antioch intern could write articles about these things)

* Betsy Stacey- working with Horatio Colony Nature Preserve. Visiting educator to Nature Writing Focused Study group, then field trip to preserve, then exhibit of work at the Horatio Colony Museum
* Sam Sintros- Birds, bird nests (stewards of environment) Harris Center- 3rd grade Franklin-
* Seth Andrews- 6th KMS- Focused Study Group- “Healthy Neighborhood Healthy Communities” curriculum concept
* Willow- 8th KMS (see below)
* Walter Huston- Marlow Principal- Kroka expedition- 2 X a year - penpals and hikes, rock climbing- Marlow profile, canoeing on Sand Pond, Lake Warren Canoe, 3rd and 4th grade teacher- unit on Beavers, 12 dams behind school ,
* Liza Lowe- Wild Roots Nature School 4-6 year olds- interested in networking and learning how other schools doing Place-based Education
* Mary Grove- 8th- Solar Ovens
* Peter Siegel- Symonds School- Music- Building a sense of community through the arts, Keene Song- Pride in Place- Quest Program
* Jessica Arrow- K- Symonds- Outdoor Classroom once a week with her K class- Landscape Design and Analysis for Nature Based Learning Antioch class held at Symonds
* Lenoir MacDougal- The Sustainability Project-Events, this Sunday 11-3, Student from Monadnock High School- trail building- for his senior project, location of The Sustainability Project=Rt 10 Emerson Brook Drive, Diane Eno- Forest Walk this Saturday
* Miranda Nelken- Signage development for boardwalk trail at KMS
* Jenna Spear- Harris Center- “Conservation Ed in your place”- 3rd year of programs at KMS boardwalk trail, K-8. It is a free program due to UNFI support. Keene 3rd grade- birds- 2nd grade pollination and seed dispersal- Symonds - 3 year program each year Harris Center backs out a little and let teachers take over.
* Carol Menke Keefe- Place -based project- army corp of engineers- field near the school is being turned into a pollinator garden- 7th and 8th graders- plant inventory- biodiversity- Jeff Littleton fall and spring- 3rd and 4th- math- Pace out measurements plan walkways- 400 ft., Planting in the spring. 1st and 2nd- butterflies, 5-6 other pollinators
* Paul Bocko- Inside Outside conference - October 21, 9-4, K-6 version of *In Bloom*, early-ed conference- At Symonds school

**Climate Change Service Learning Project- (Willow)**

As part of Willow Nilsen’s fellowship at Shelburne Farms- Climate Resiliency Education- she is creating a service learning project for her 120 students- She asked the group if they had ideas on how to make service learning applicable for all. The group gave some ideas in the meeting and Willow is happy to hear more about any ideas people have about community needs that students could help with. Suggestions included:

* Invasive Species remediation
* People to talk to Antioch center for climate preparedness and resilience- Jim Gruber and Michael Simpson,
* Survey- what do you want to have happen in Keene? Talk to Rhett Lamb- Borrow a bike, bike paths around town,
* Ashuelot River Park- place non-native plants with native plants- Native Bees travel 500 feet from their home- Survey of plants in the school yard at KMS

**Cedar Foundation Grant- (Paul)** due Sept 30- know by Dec 1, $20,000- $100,000, Professional Development for teachers-K-12, Proposal - Environmental Stewardship, shared learning leadership development, Networking, methods to assess success

The planned activities are:

* Summer Place-based Institute- 4 days
* School based coaching
* 1 day follow up conference
* Spring conference to come together sharing out work with students

Overarching concept- classrooms matched with Specialists- coordination of effort and then continue mentoring-

1 year funding

**(Mccarthey Dressman Foundation Grant - Due in January)**

**Antioch Intern Work- (Jennie Friedman and Betsy)**

 **Communication Plan- (**see attached doc)

**New Email**- placebasedcommittee@gmail.com (currently forwards to Jennie and Betsy)

 **Website-** resources for educators- lessons plans, tips for teaching outdoors,

**Facebook page**- events, opportunities and events, - most people in support

**Digital Newsletter-** spotlight, some hesitancy that we would be unable to keep something like this up, may make more sense to put the energy into writing articles and putting them in newspapers, links on Facebook and on the website.

**Photos!**- for website- We need photos for the website of people, kids, families, learning outside in local environments or working on local projects inside. It would be great is they were oriented in a landscape way as opposed to portrait so that they fit in the banners for the website.

 **PR in newspaper**

**Shelburne Farms Professional Development** - Education for Sustainability Immersion- Who went Lenoir McDougal, Betsy Stacey, Seth Andrews, Carol Menke Keefe, Willow Nilsen, Dan Heath, Liza Lowe, Sarah Gray

* How can we share what we learned? (If we write curriculum it can be shared)

**Fall conference on Place-based Education at Antioch** **(Paul)**

* The conference is Sat., Oct 21st, see previous email for more info or visit <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eehpa0sx683c8815&oseq=&c=&ch=>

**Any updates? Monadnock Progressive Alliance's Education Committee Information (Liza and Jessica)**

There has been a lot happening in the Monadnock Progressive Alliance’s Education Committee meetings including 2 roundtables and a forum. Many different stakeholders attended including parents, educators, retirees, Molly Kelly- Center for civic investment, superintendent etc. Their mission is to focus preschools on a play-based curriculum starting with early childhood. There were over 30 at forum including the Superintendent and Peter Starkey and George Downing. This is a very active committee and we will want to ask for their help when we need it. .

The Monadnock Progressive Alliance meets every Monday at 4- behind YMCA at the pool house- condo development. <http://www.monadproalliance.org/> <http://www.monadproalliance.org/education.html>

4:55- Ajournement