

Amanda Westlund  
NR 734: School Building Energy Efficiency  
Action Plan  
May 15, 2005

## **Environmental Education/Energy Education Elementary Club**

The purpose of this action plan is to form and progress with an active group of elementary aged students in being involved in environmental education. The age range of this club would be from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. This club would meet after school to carry out activities dealing with environmental issues. We would meet one to two times a trimester. The meetings would last for approximately one hour. During this hour we would discuss our topic of the day, do an activity pertaining to such and have a light snack. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to help and join in.

We would implement our plan starting at the Stillson Elementary School. There are approximately 150 students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>. If necessary we would break the group into smaller sections and hold on different evenings if our numbers required us to do so. This would also give us an opportunity to compare findings from the different groups or also explore different aspects of certain issues during the same trimester.

There has not been an environmental club with in the Chippewa Falls District at the elementary level. The teachers within the district do integrate environmental education into their lesson plans throughout the year. Forming the Environmental Club would create even more of an awareness and spark possibly greater interest in the care of our world within our elementary students. This would be very useful to our students so that they may inform others and take their knowledge and learning with them as they progress through life.

### **Statement of Need**

The Environmental Club would:

- increase the awareness of environmental education and energy conservation
- make students, staff and the community aware of the need for environmental education
- get students, staff and community excited about working together to help our community
- develop ways to take action and apply the environmental education that they have gained

## Environmental Club Goals and Objectives

Develop an Environmental Education Club for ages Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

\*Trimester meetings would include:

- \* goal setting and identifying the issues that interest the students
- \* practical/reality based action activities
- \* utilizing the WI Green and Healthy Schools Program
- \* field trips designed to stimulate the concerns and awareness of energy resources and environmental education

The Environmental Club would work towards helping the school to become a “Green and Healthy School” as promoted through the Wisconsin DNR.

It would also work on involving the community and getting the word out about the need to take care of our environment and encourage involvement by all.

To help fund the needs of the Environmental Club we would also have several fundraising activities.

To initiate teacher interest/involvement/knowledge base we would:

- \* hold in-services updating teachers on the specific areas that we would be covering
- \* give teachers the opportunity to collaborate with the club and have the activities branch into their classrooms
- \* interest teachers into developing and carrying out activities within the club

## Timeline for the Environmental Club

Within the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:

- \* Teacher in-service ~ present plan and purpose of the Environmental Club
  - ~ present our goals and objectives
  - ~ get teachers interested and involved

\* Create interest among student body. Make a presentation to each class notifying students of what the club would be all about and when we would have our first meeting.

~ We would kick off the year by having a competition dealing with environmental education.

~ We would end the trimester by observing our items for the competition and having a party.

Within the 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:

\* The club would hold regular meetings and engage in specific activities set out by the group leaders to make them more aware of environmental needs.

\* The club would work towards making the school a “Green and Healthy School.”

Within the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:

\* The club would continue to work towards being a “Green and Healthy School” and engage in meaningful activities dealing with environmental needs.

## **Evaluation Process**

\* The Environmental Club would make students, parents, teachers and community members more involved in ongoing activities and issues in our community.

\* The Club would continue to meet throughout the upcoming years and continue to strive to reach the goals that we have made.

\* The Club would have completed an energy audit of our school building.

\* There would be evidence of savings, impact and involvement from the Club activities.

## **Budget**

The money that we would need to start the club would cover the costs of materials for projects and signs to make others aware of our progress.

Organizer for materials:	\$65	
Tag Board:	\$5	Total cost: \$120
Other materials:	\$50	