ICCSD IPM Task Force Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 8, 2016
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm Central
ESC Room PDC-A & B

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Cliff Ehlinger, Geoff Lauer

Present: Jeff Barnes, Terry Coleman, Alison Demory, Caroline Dieterle, Ben Grimm, Lisa Hall, Phil Hemingway, Dr. Brandi Janssen, Jennifer Kardos, Michelle Kenyon, Scott Kibby, Brian Kirschling, Ann Langenfeld, Dave McKenzie, Jennifer Mettemeyer, Joyce Miller, Mike O’Leary, Mark Shour, Dr. Mary Skopec, Geoff Wilming

Absent: Ryan Adams, John Bacon, Lore Baur, Matt Degner, Carol DeProsse, Chris Henze, Liz Maas, Mark McBurney, Troy McQuillen, Chris Pisarik, Susie Poulton, Charlie Stumpff, Duane Van Hemert, Dr. Fred Whitford

1. **Call to order 4:00pm**
   - Introductions

2. **Review and approve minutes from previous meeting**
   - Approved minutes with no changes
   - From the prior minutes we shouldn’t lose sight of the recommended community forums and comments about our current interim policy.

3. **IPM Activity Reports**
   - Meeting with Superintendent Murley
     - IPM timeline was discussed. IPM Task Force needs to present a policy statement to the board by end of May 2016. By September 2016 the IPM Task Force should have guidelines identified and by November 2106 operating procedures.
     - Having a unanimous decision was discussed. All IPM items that the IPM Task Force can agree on will be brought to the Operations Committee. If the IPM Task Force has disagreements regarding policy, guidelines or procedures both sides will be presented to the Operations Committee and then the Operations Committee will bring that discussion to the Board of Directors meeting.
     - Superintendent Murley recognizes that there is an education component to the IPM program to the staff and community. He will write to the Press Citizen to educate the community about our efforts for our IPM program.
   - Exterior Subcommittee—This subcommittee has met once already in January and will meet monthly. Ben Grimm will be presenting current general grounds practices for the next Exterior Committee meeting.
   - Advisory Committee—It was suggested that we have a public comment time at the end of a subcommittees rather than allowing public comment during their meetings.
If there are questions during this process email Cliff Ehlinger and Geoff Lauer.

4. **Policy Development**

   Lauer / Ehlinger

   In developing our IPM policy we should look at it from a high level perspective. The details will come later with the guidelines and operating procedures. This should be “Why are we doing this” level of policy development.

   Listed below are items that were discussed in regards to IPM policy development.

   - Pests inevitable, they are part of a healthy ecosystem
   - Definition of IPM
   - Information gathering records need to be kept current (identification of the pest etc), dissemination in education to staff and community and course of action
   - Transparency in the records, accessibility to the information by the public
   - Goal of no exposure to pesticides in the school environment resulting from school actions
   - Goal of protecting health of students, staff and others
   - Definition of pest
   - Liked the Illinois IPM policy statement but we need to add the transparency piece to the record keeping section
   - Maintaining a safe environment
   - Liked the Elkhart IPM policy, to protect human health by suppressing pests that vector diseases.
   - The entire policy should be a philosophy of both interior and exterior areas.
   - Vermont policy has objectives that is well written which includes exterior and interior.
   - We shouldn’t use the word pesticide, it is too general.

   The advisory committee will create a draft IPM policy for this group to review based on the above items goals.

   **General Comments/Questions:**

   - With regards to our interim IPM policy the exterior grounds are okay. The interior has a couple schools with a roach problem, West High and Weber Elementary. Dave McKenzie is working with them to identify areas where roaches might be coming into the space and eliminate the issue.
   - Our schools are a public facility that is governed by state law, more organisms in the environment that need to be addressed than a home residence. Baiting for cockroaches only needed until the issue is taking care of. Public Health, disinfectants and sanitation efforts. Compliant with state and local laws i.e. disinfectants. We should be able to have zero use of insecticides/rodenticides in interior space.
   - Is there anyone around the table that believes we would need to use pesticides in the exterior or interior in any situation? Yes, athletic fields would need to have them. Geoff Lauer is stating would we need to change the expectations of the other schools in the conferences. Roosevelt ravine needs to be maintained. Turf field at City High, grass growing in the turf and that might be destructive to the turf.
   - If we have to use something once a twice a year for interior pests that is okay, but not if it was monthly.
- There will be increased costs for labor to close up the schools etc. from pests. Then if the environment is unfriendly to the pests they won’t survive.
- Shour stated there are some herbicides that are needed at times.
- Cleanliness and sanitation issues can be a big hurdle in implementing an IPM plan. Our human behaviors and cleanliness can bring in pests to our school environment.
- What is the school board going to do if the school board does agree with a restrictive policy when it comes to Iowa code? They will look at the process, but the one unifying component is what we can afford to do, we have limited funding.
- Quality Care Landscaping treatments were of the athletics fields, hard surfaces for weed control and occasional outbreaks. But no treatment on general grounds, fence lines, playgrounds.
- Our current ICCSD staff practices are general use areas and playgrounds our not being sprayed. We do the fence lines because it was not the expectations to not treat those areas. Roosevelt ravine doesn’t get sprayed. We spray our “asset areas” which includes around trees to create a mulch ring to protect trees.
- When we replace our soccer or turf fields maybe we should replace it with artificial turf. Ben Grimm states that these surfaces still need treatments to eliminate blood, fecal matter etc.

5. **Adjournment and next meeting**

- Adjourn 5:30pm. Next meeting March 7th, 2016.