

## CHAT FROM GGIL SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS PROGRAM, JANUARY 10, 2023

00:23:09 Kim Stone (she/her): Solar on Schools Program (Sierra Club):  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeFnX48rVRXeZWk\\_QimX6UFvRz8AoGKHMn5zy\\_74R7d7vgnPg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeFnX48rVRXeZWk_QimX6UFvRz8AoGKHMn5zy_74R7d7vgnPg/viewform)

00:37:07 Catherine Clarkin, Naperville: In Naperville Districts 203 and 204, we have students doing a sustainability survey in order to show school administrators community support for sustainability initiatives.

00:48:09 Phoebe Beierle, Center for Green Schools: If you are working with a school district, definitely consider learning more about the CLASS Prize to build capacity in energy management in the district. <https://www.herox.com/energy-class>

01:01:05 Kim Stone (she/her): Job description for sustainability is at:  
<https://www.gogreenillinois.org/resources/>. Click on job descriptions and then download it.

01:02:55 D Silverman, Arlington Heights, IL: Great presentations, thanks! Leadership from the top matters too - Here's another resource, FYI: The Superintendents' Environmental Education Collaborative (SEEC) has organized national consortia with the North American Association for Environmental Education provides an important leadership cohort for superintendents and districts. This can make a huge difference for advocates developing district level green schools initiatives. You can connect with the initiative and plug your community efforts in here: <https://naaee.org/programs/seec>

01:06:44 Sheri Latash-Greener Glenview: Applicability to private bus companies??

01:07:59 Catherine Clarkin, Naperville: There's a lot of range anxiety/skepticism in our districts. We've also been told that there aren't electric school buses available to purchase, especially if you want to pilot 1 or 2 buses rather than a larger fleet.

01:11:56 Susan Mudd: [smudd@elpc.org](mailto:smudd@elpc.org); 414-232-4359 (cell)

01:13:49 Susan Mudd: thank you all; glad to help anyone with more info

01:15:40 Susan Mudd: Catherine, let's talk. There definitely are electric buses to buy, some now being made in Joliet at Lion Electric. Sorry I have to hop. Susan

01:30:30 Theresa Greinig: SWANCC: Solid Waste Agency of NORTHERN COOK county:  
[www.swancc.org](http://www.swancc.org)  
Education Contact: [theresa@swancc.org](mailto:theresa@swancc.org)

SWANCC Communities Waste Grant Application: <https://swancc.org/resources/educational-resources/swancc-forms/552-waste-grant-application-2022-2023/file>

"Environmental Pathways" by (IEPA) <https://pathways.mste.illinois.edu/curriculum/food-waste/resources>

International Compost Awareness Week: May 7-13, 2023:  
<https://www.compostfoundation.org/ICAW/ICAW-Home>

SWALCO: Solid Waste Agency of LAKE County: [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org)  
Education Contact: [mrampale@swalco.org](mailto:mrampale@swalco.org)

01:33:23 Mary Beth Schaye: Woot woot!

01:35:50 Candice Dalrymple: Re school gardens: how are green participants dealing with the stewardship requirements to keep a garden, once planted, healthy? (Weeding, watering, etc.)

01:36:49 Dennis Stonequist Loyola Academy: Dennis Stonequist

01:36:53 Mary Beth Schaye: The pope's video is free on YouTube.

01:37:02 Dennis Stonequist Loyola Academy: 847.920.2443 dstonequist@loy.org

01:37:27 Becky Brodsky: becky@sevengenerationsahead.org,  
<https://sevengenerationsahead.org/our-work/zero-waste-schools/zero-waste-schools-toolkit/>

01:37:38 Katie Nahrwold, Kenilworth: <https://gogreenillinoischools.wordpress.com/>

01:38:13 Mary Beth Schaye: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rps9bs85BII&t=252s>

01:47:04 Dave Conway - New Trier High School: How can we get more information about the IRS cash back?

01:49:35 Dave Wilms - Libertyville Commissioner: I sell solar and am putting a megawatt on Stevenson High School. If schools buy solar and get a short term lease to own it themselves, they can own the system and maximize the incentives saving the most money. Be very careful on any electric cost escalators on PPA's. Since solar is the cheapest form of energy, the cost of energy could stabilize Beth is right! Climate change is well known my students so getting them involved helps empower them. Also, clean energy is currently cheaper than fossil fuels... and this knowledge is important for them to know.

01:50:15 Kris Murphy, Aurora: Mia, can you please share your contact info?

01:50:48 Mia Korinke: Yes, this is vey good advice Dave! We recommend schools purchase solar panels whenever possible to avoid escalators and maximize savings.

01:51:32 Mia Korinke: Here is my contact information: Mia Korinke, Climate Jobs Illinois. 763-607-9263. mkorinke@climatejobsillinois.org

01:53:37 Lisa Albrecht: lisa.albrecht@illinoisolar.org

01:53:59 Lisa Albrecht: Lisa Albrecht773.887.6446

01:54:04 Katie Nahrwold, Kenilworth: Thank you presenters for fighting the fight for our schools and children! 🌍💚

01:54:35 Phoebe Beierle, Center for Green Schools: Let me know what questions you have or if you know of district staff who should be part of our free leadership network: Phoebe Beierle, pbeierle@usgbc.org

01:54:44 Mia Korinke: SEDAC is another great resource! Smart Energy Design Assistance Center at UIUC.

01:55:02 Theresa Greinig: With solar in schools what is the support when it comes time for the panels end of life?

01:56:07 Sheri Latash-Greener Glenview: OUTSTANDING presentations!!!

01:57:45 Becky Brodsky: @Candice Dalrymple re: school garden maintenance-connecting the garden to curriculum is key so that there is teacher/school support. Many schools have parents/families rotate over the summer. Some schools have garden clubs, as well. They may meet during lunch or after school.

01:59:28 Mia Korinke: Sign up for your Free ComEd Energy Audit here:  
<https://www.comed.com/WaysToSave/ForYourBusiness/Pages/PublicSchoolsCarbonFreeAssessment.aspx>

01:59:35 Laura Wilkens: Does anyone have resources on how we can train or expose students to training to become solar installers?

02:00:25 Mia Korinke: Climate Jobs Illinois works with local trade unions to help expose students to careers in renewable energy, including paid apprenticeship programs. Happy to talk more offline with anyone who is interested.

02:00:43 Laura Wilkens: Thank you, Mia!

02:00:54 Shawn Maurer-SEDAC: Some information on the Solar Tax Credits and updates with the Inflation Reduction Act. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/federal-solar-tax-credits-businesses>

02:00:55 Kris Murphy, Aurora: When I shared the SolarAPP+ program with staff, they could not do because of "software issues".

02:01:05 Theresa Greinig: Pleasure to meet everyone. Keep up the great work!

02:01:40 Kris Murphy, Aurora: Aurora

02:01:44 Lisa Albrecht: thanks Kris. there are resources to help. was this Aurora?

02:01:58 Lisa Albrecht: jinx. I will call you Kris. thanks!!

02:02:01 Mia Korinke: It was nice to meet you all! I have to hop off, but feel free to reach out with any questions.

02:02:03 Kris Murphy, Aurora: Yes Lisa, Aurora

02:02:14 Mary Beth Schaye she/her Collective Resource Compost: Go Wilmette!

02:02:47 Deb Singleton: Deb Singleton in Deerfield, pls

02:03:11 Jacquelyn Casazza: @Kris and @Lisa, Glen Ellyn said the same thing about the solar permitting app. Perhaps I could crash your call :) I will try to find out more information on exactly the issue

02:04:03 Kris Murphy, Aurora: Sounds good, Lisa and Jacquelyn.

02:04:16 Lisa Albrecht: the Gov ball yesterday was single-use plastic free. or so I heard

02:04:33 Kris Murphy, Aurora: <https://www.auroragreenfest.com/>

02:04:48 Peter Gorr: If any Group would like a "Powering Your Home with the Sun" presentation by IL Solar Education Assoc. feel free to contact me. pagorr@comcast.net.

02:05:02 Beth Drucker: Nature's Best Hope is a great book!

02:05:03 Charlie Saxe, Skokie: Public presentation at the Skokie Library - January 25th. Will be hybrid - in person and on zoom. "Your Energy-Smart Home: Decarbonization 101" with CUB and Bickerdike Redevelopment. For more information and registration visit the following web site: <https://skokielibrary.info/events/16421/your-energy-smart-home-decarbonization-101>

02:05:10 Dave Wilms - Libertyville Commissioner: Who has influence in communities? 20% of a community is students and if you add in parents, that number would approach 50%. The goal of a great school is inspire the students so they carry on the discussion of what they have learned with their parents at home. The best way for students learn is by watching what adults do. So if adults at schools model recycling and solar energy and social justice, then those discussions will happen in the homes and help speed the change in the entire community... and world.

02:05:11 Liz Kunkle, Go Green Winnetka: <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>

02:06:44 Shital Pandit Northbrook: Shital Pandit, Northbrook

02:06:49 Kris Murphy, Aurora: @Dave Wilms, the sustainability or environmental boards or commissions can help support the causes and most of the time have relationships with city staff and elected officials.

02:07:11 Janet Smietana: i can update for palatine

02:07:44 Tracey Edsey Park Ridge: I need to pick up my kids, but in Park Ridge, D64. after discussions with Go Green and SWANCC, has started a district- wide green team (the PTOs are doing this on their own as well) to address sustainability at each school and get them all on the same page.

02:08:46 Dorothy Elfring: Hi Katie, I would like to join Go Green Illinois Schools

02:09:19 Sheri Latash-Greener Glenview: Katie , count me in! Greener Glenview

02:10:44 Janet Smietana: Great Lakes Health

Pt. 1 – <https://youtu.be/HznX52dICcg>

Pt. 2 – <https://youtu.be/VvCgLO5d3tM>

Pt. 3 – <https://youtu.be/zw2ZtKI57K8>

Pt. 4 – <https://youtu.be/c0yexgfxjS4>

02:12:19 Kris Murphy, Aurora: Kim, can you share these witness slips with Climate Reality Chicago?

02:13:48 Becky Brodsky: Thanks, Beth and Kim!

02:14:06 Mary Beth Schaye she/her Collective Resource Compost: Thanks everyone!

02:14:25 Kerry Hall, Wilmette: Possible future topic: how to best urge green legislation