Visioning for your School Garden



Researched school garden benefits:

- Exposure to and education about fruits and vegetables,
- improved academic achievement
- builds character and pride,
- increases physical activity
 and time outside;
- supports responsibility, nurturance, patience and persistence,
- curiosity in and comfort with the natural environment



Why are we doing this now? Research Says!.....

These are the critical components of sustainable SG

- Funding -
- Materials/Maintenance -
- 3. <u>Instruction</u> Lessons Activities in the garden
- 4. <u>People</u> "A committee committed to the instructional school garden is the most important step towards success." Report*

^{*} Best Practices Models for Implementing, Sustaining, and Using Instructional School Gardens in California

Sustainable garden systems rely on:

- Administration and/or district support and promotion
- Teacher comfort in utilizing school gardens
- Parents/community volunteer and financial support
- ✓ Garden coordinator supported by the school or an outside organization



What do we hope to get out of this exercise?

Integrated and sustainable SG



Commitment and Excitement

- Vision Statements for promotion and direction
- Identify assets who can help meet the goals
- Coordination between partners
- Courage through Shared tasks

Why is a school garden important to you?



Top 3-6 values:

- Consider existing school values and list your school garden values on a whiteboard or paper sheets
 - Ex: exposure to healthy foods
 - Ex: hands on learning

- □ What are the most important school garden values
 - dry erase dots on whiteboard or sticker votes on paper

Formulate a broad vision statement for top 3 listed value

- Why School Garden?
 - Value # 1
 - □ Value # 2
 - Value # 3



- Create a vision
 statement about how the garden meets each
 value and contributes to the school/community
 - Ex: "The garden supports student understanding across academic curriculum"
 - Ex: The garden provides connections between the school and the greater community

Vision # 1 – What's working? What are the needs?

Components of sustainable SG

- 1. Physical space (materials/maintenance) -
- 2. <u>Instruction (student experience)— Lessons Clubs</u>
- 3. People (Parents, students, Staff, Americorps, F2S)
- 4. Funding –

First match some of the needs with some of the haves – Asset mapping.

- Pick 2-3 things to do in the next 4-6 months then talk about what the next 2-3 years might look like.
- People need to be putting tasks into their calendar in order to meet goals



How do we meet each vision?

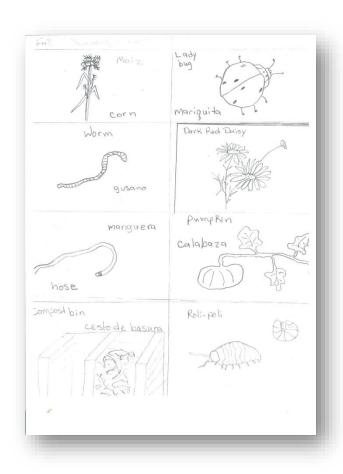
□ Vision # 1



- What SMART goals accomplish this vision? (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely)
 - Funding
 - Materials/Maintenance
 - □ Instruction: timing/curriculum
 - People
- Who leads and who helps with each element?

How do we meet each vision?

□ Vision # 2



- What SMART goals accomplish this vision? (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely)
 - Funding
 - Materials/Maintenance
 - □ Instruction: timing/curriculum
 - People
- Who leads and who helps with each element?

How do we meet each vision?

□ Vision # 3



- What SMART goals accomplish this vision? (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely)
 - Funding
 - Materials/Maintenance
 - Instruction: timing/curriculum
 - People
- Who leads and who helps with each element?