



Meeting Minutes

3 March 2016

Littleton Public Schools

5776 S. Crocker St., Littleton, CO 80120

Attendees: Wayne Cooper (Arapahoe County), Hal Corin (Jeffco), Jim Faes (DPS), Dalton Jones (Arapahoe County), Derel Leedy (DPS), Brad Leitner (Littleton), Jeff Medwetz (BVSD) Nichole Moyer (Littleton) Dana Neidhardt (District 49), Julie North (Aurora) Matthew Robinson (Colorado Energy Office), Ben Teeples (Regis Jesuit High School), Trudy Trimbath (Poudre), Dara Ward (St. Vrain Valley) LeeAnn Westfall (DCSD), Craig Wright (Aurora), Romas Zableckas (Weld County)

via phone: Eric Anderson (Mesa County), Brett Dowgin (Thompson R2-J)

10:10 – 11:10 Walk-In Freezer Controls – Ryan Kliethermes (KE2 Therm)

Notes:

- Ryan gave an excellent technical overview of the KE2 Therm Walk-In Cooler/Freezer evaporator controls.
- The solution is effective for not only reducing unnecessary evaporator fan operation
- Craig Wright indicated Aurora Public Schools installed their product across 40 sites last summer. APS happened to have installed real-time meters monitoring the compressor/evaporator circuits at 13 sites. 1 month operation comparisons suggest <5 year payback.

11:20 – 12:00 Automated Sustainability Reports – Hanna Chaffer (Alpine Waste)

Notes:

- Hanna presented on the technical means by which Alpine Waste trucks collect waste and recycling weights, and then share these details with their customers via consolidated monthly sustainability reports.
- Craig Wright highlighted how this data has been helpful for getting many school energy/environmental clubs off the ground.

12:45 – 1:00 Littleton Public Schools Update – Brad Leitner (LPS)

Notes:

- Brad highlighted the great engagement students within his district have the numerous school gardens throughout the district.
- Brad made everyone feel jealous when he shared that he had a mobile app to interface with their building automation system. The group felt even more deflated when Daryl Leedy with Denver Public Schools chimed in about his.

1:00 – 1:30 Local Food Recovery Partnerships – Arlan Preblud (We Don't Waste)

Notes:

- Arlan, a former attorney, started We Don't Waste in 2009.
- It takes advantage of a Federal Good Samaritan Law passed in 1983 that indicates that as long as the donating entity does everything reasonably necessary to preserve the integrity of the food, the entity cannot be held liable for contamination or otherwise compromising food safety.
- We Don't Waste picks up from 80 food donors in the metro area, including leftovers from catered events at several sports arenas, including Sports Authority Field at Mile High.
- A sad fact: 1 in 4 children in Colorado go to bed hungry every day.
- Food waste also has environmental impacts: 23% of landfill produced methane gas is from food waste.

1:30 – 2:00 Open Discussion: District Cold Weather Procedures

Notes:

- Influencing factors (and the often correspondingly vocal stakeholder):
 - Prevent loss to equipment and/or structure (Risk Management)
 - Utility and operational costs associated with extended runtimes (Finance)
 - Public perception of catastrophic events (Superintendent, COO, Maintenance Director)
- Bottom line: Need to have written and cohesive policy prescribing measures to take when OA temperatures drop below freezing, below zero, etc.
 - Worst time to make a decision about how to respond to a cold weather event is just prior to arrival of a “polar vortex”
 - Using fear to guide decision making often contributes to excessive waste, or could even exacerbate the problem
 - District with intimate knowledge of the costs of running buildings in occupied mode 24/7 over winter break, estimates the costs at nearly \$50,000
 - Without occupants in the building to add to the inherent heat generation, and opening OA dampers unnecessarily, can quickly contribute to frozen coils.
 - For better or worse, a written policy diminishes the finger pointing potential (he said/she said)
- Cold weather property loss prevention starts with good preventative maintenance
 - Ensure OA dampers modulate properly and positions reflect commands issued by BAS.
 - Verify freeze protection sequences/controls operate properly
- When cold snaps become imminent:
 - Thoroughly communicate written policy districtwide
 - Distribute cold weather loss prevention checklist (Dalton Jones offered to provide example)
 - Be vigilant about enforcing policy against propping open doors
- Testimonials:

- Jim Faes (DPS): Has yet to see an instance where equipment that had been properly maintained and unoccupied space temperature setpoints set a 55 has resulted in freeze condition.
- Strategy adopted by Poudre Valley and Laramie Wyoming School District (according to Jim Faes and Dalton Jones): When outside air (OA) temperature drops below freeze setpoint (0°F for 24 hours – Laramie, 10°F – Poudre) run buildings in occupied mode with all OA dampers shut.
- Daryl Leedy (DPS): Let heating valves modulate, but don't run unit vents in extreme cold weather.
- Follow Up:
 - Consider creating CASDEM sanctioned procedures to add validity to districts' written cold weather procedures (This is perhaps a good start)
 - Debate merits of establishing policies around closing school and cancelling extracurricular groups/events when temperatures fall below a designated OA setpoint.