

Notes from the Garden Committee~

Oct. 3, 2012

1. Water source – We are waiting for the district to give us an estimate on a waterline to the toolshed.
2. The tool shed is to be delivered in the next week or so. Ron Feist has a work party ready to put together the tool shed. The tool shed will be placed in the rear center of the garden beds.
3. Joyce Cedarlund is submitting a Selco grant on Oct. 4, 2012. She has requested funding for hoses, 12 soaker hoses, sprinklers, irrigation timers, and garden tools.
4. Sarah Drew will get the garden website going. She will include: a wish list, the site plan, helpful garden website links, garden meeting notes, pictures, and upcoming garden events.
5. Ron Feist suggested a work table in the center of the garden beds.
6. We still need to decide on a “fence” around the garden beds. Some suggestions include blueberry bushes (the soil needs to be very acidic-use peat moss and coffee grinds) for the sides, the compost bins and tool shed will be in the rear, and perhaps a slightly raised strawberry bed in the front with an arbor archway going into the garden. Other ideas include a trellis for beans doubling as a fence. Do you like any of these ideas? Or do you have another idea?
7. We still need to decide if we want a year long garden or a school year garden. If we can invite our neighbors who live on Abbie Lane and have staff/families sign up for a week during the summer months, we can have a year long garden with bigger plants. Would you be interested in taking turns maintaining our school garden during the summer months? There are at least 11 weeks.
8. The gravel around the garden beds needs to be kept from spreading out. We can use wooden beams. Any suggestions?
9. Should we label the garden beds for each grade level? or have one side for the primary grades and the other side for the upper grades?
10. Janet who is trained to be a master gardener and works in the kitchen discussed the different compost machines used at other schools. She is ready to get the compost going.
11. Do you want the students to be involved at the different stages of composting or will the compost be left alone to do its work?
12. The School Garden Project and OSU are a couple of resources to explore for garden ideas.

Next Garden Meeting with Jenny Laxton, who is the Program Coordinator for The School Garden Project, will be on the 17th of October at 2:45 p.m.

We will discuss specific garden rules for the students, a maintenance plan for the Hope Garden in the courtyard, and suggestions for a successful Willagillespie community learning garden. Please come and give your input.