

Education Committee Minutes
January 9th, 2024
Yorkville, IL
4:00pm

Members Present: Alyse Olson, Julie Brown, Deanna Bazan, Ariel Beauchamp

Started meeting at 4:05pm

1. Review of Winter Programs

- a. AITC Presentations- December wrapped up the Soybean lesson and soy plastic activity. We saw 559 students in 2 weeks. Our next lesson will be on water and understanding the water cycle utilizing AITC water bracelet art activity for students. We are currently projected to see about 2,000 students from mid-January through March.
- b. Feedback from Teachers- Many teachers responded that the soybean lesson was the best lesson yet with their students. You can find the schools and their feedback on this google form with the link in the sending email.

2. Future Programs/Ideas

- a. Natural Resource Tour- There are 3 dates this year for NRT. It will be on May 2nd, 8th, and 9th. It will be again at Silver Springs State Park. It will be 3 days instead of two to accommodate YIS, Plano, and smaller public and private schools in the county. Ariel is always looking for more partners to have as presenters to accommodate this 200+ student a day event.
- b. Intern- We have hired the JJC intern Delaney O'Sullivan as the 2024 Education Communications Intern. She will be assisting us more with our social media and in the classrooms till May 31st.
- c. Envirothon- Is still in works to finding a place and date in March.
- d. Agriculture Career Essay Contest- The Ag Career Essay Contest will be emailed to school districts this week. Deanna suggested emailing directly to teachers that shared with the students that entered last year.
- e. Volunteer Presenter Training Program- Next training date is on the January 11th at 4pm.
- f. National Agriculture Week- Ariel asked for ideas to highlight for this week. Deanna suggested doing interviews of children participating in AITC. Julie suggested spotlighting education on agriculture technology.
- g. Farm Safety Camp- Date will be in the last week of June pending agreement with host site. The event has historically been held at Kellogg Farms in Yorkville.

3. Future Meeting Dates

April 9th and June 4th at 4 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 4:35pm

Minutes written and submitted by Ariel Beauchamp