



Safe: Healthful food choices to fuel our growing bodies.

Respectful: Recognizing our proud past and looking toward our healthy future through agriculture.

Cooperative: Connecting classrooms and community through the cafeteria.

Responsible: Environmentally sustainable, reducing our environmental impact or footprint.

Building the soil – connecting the community

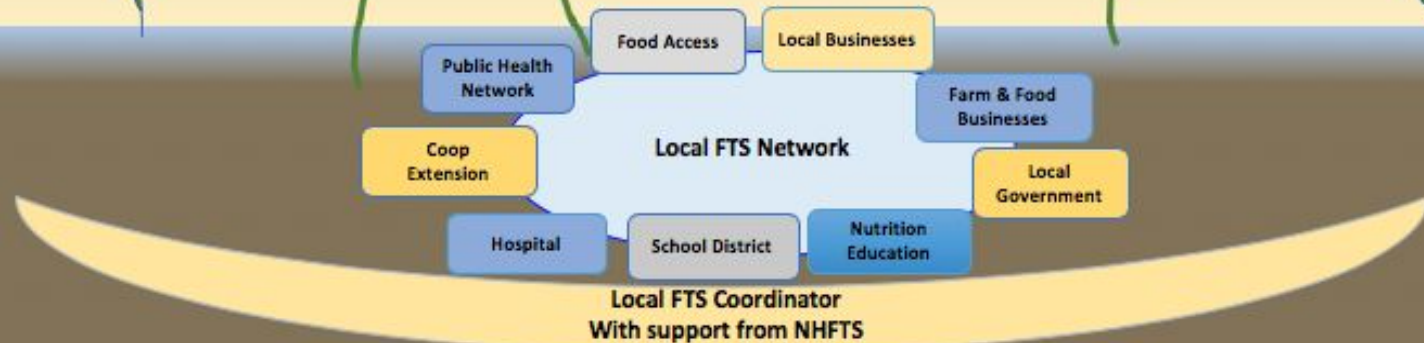
Structure, direction, connection for FTS efforts

Commitment and momentum for action on projects

New solutions and collaborations emerge

Increased connections between schools and local community

Sharing learning across schools, towns



FTS Mission: To create a healthier community by increasing access to fresh and local foods, educating about food and sustainability, and building community connections”



Education and Awareness



- “Kids have taught parents about composting.”
- “Outdoor ed being incorporated into curriculum.”



SYC Plant for Growth Gardens, Bartlett Ave



Community Partnerships



75% of SAMM customers using SNAP benefits in Somersworth (15-20% in other towns)



- Somersworth Housing Authority
- Frisbie Memorial Hospital
- Ovington's Produce

Waste Reduction and Cost Savings

- In 2017-18 SMS composted, on average:

44 lb/ of food waste/day

808 lb/month

7272 lb/year

**= \$5700 in savings for
removal of SMS
dumpster in 2018**



- **January 2019 data** **6 tons/year composted**

SMS composts 56 lb of food/day

Maple Wood composts 75 lb of food/day

“With teachers wanting to move forward with a composting program, the efforts of knowledgeable individuals from different disciplines made it happen.”



Compost at Schools Resulted in Increased Recycling



8 yard Trash dumpster, 2/week pickup = \$1304.10/mo

8 yard Recycling dumpster, 1/week pickup = \$205.68/mo

(HS/CTC 2018 baseline WM costs for 2018. Not including fees)



- Elimination of SMS dumpster a direct result of cafeteria composting; subsequent removal of HS dumpster a result of NRRA waste audit
- No composting at SMS= addition of dumpster=\$5700 annually
- SMS and MW composting with Mr. Fox= \$4250/year, includes up to 8 yards compost delivered to school gardens
- City Rec Dept utilizing school recycling dumpsters for summer camp

↑ Schools composting = ↓ Rate/school (\$2000/school)

Aligns with Vision 2020 Sustainability Goals

Community Dinner, Community Pride

- “Increase in parent volunteers and donations from local community and businesses”
- “Free Community Dinner brought people together of diverse ages”







Local
Farms



NH Gleans



Café Services
Your plate is our passion.

Leadership and Empowerment

- **“Students have achieved personal growth that has helped them overcome obstacles at home and school.”**
- **“Teachers and staff have become community leaders.”**



Stronger Inter-school Relationships

- “Greater collaboration has emerged between the middle school and the CTC. A new pathway to career technical education”
- “Coordinator has played central unifying role, enhancing capacity to pursue new ideas.”
- “Staff have come together professionally and socially.”



Benefits of K-12 Sustainability Education Programs

- **87% Reduced Student Absenteeism**
- **74% Ability to Attract and Retain Teachers**
- **72% Improved Community Image**

(Source: Greening America's Schools, 2006)

- **90% Reported Increased Skills**
- **83% Reported Better Environment Related Behaviors**

(Source: NAAEE Case Study, Stanford University)

National Farm to School Network Statistics(2017)

With school gardens, nearly half of students eat more fruits and vegetables

Higher engagement and achievement in K-12, including grades and test scores; more opportunities for physical, social, and emotional wellness

Reduced waste of local food, both on the production side as well as plate waste

Lower school meal program costs. Shift toward local purchasing

Funding of FTS in Somersworth 2016-present



\$30,000



\$41,093

Frisbie Memorial Hospital

\$125

NH Ag in the Classroom

\$200



SHELBURNE FARMS
Educating for a Sustainable Future

\$2000



Extension

\$730

Garlic Powder raffle fundraiser for 8th grade NYC trip

\$650

In kind donations of product & time from
community businesses & organizations

\$17,000

Total out-of-district support for FTS

\$91,798

What are we asking for?

- **Funding for 2019-20 school year of P/T FTS Coordinator, up to \$10,000**
- **Continued support of Mr Fox contracts at MS and MW.**

$\$4250 < \5700

What's at stake here?

- **Current school and community partnerships, current programming**
- **Alignment with city sustainability goals**
- **Pursuit of 2 year \$100,000 USDA FTS grant to fund FTS for 2020-2022 school years, inclusion of city**
- **Deeper connection for kids to their natural world, because it is their future, not ours**

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Trash on the lawn day

One day somersworth trash analysis

Made by: lukas kelly

My claim

In our research we have found out that about half of somersworth middle schools trash is compostable and recyclable resources which is a problem because we could use that to make our community cleaner and better for our landfills because they can't sort through all of that and it's just money being wasted on our part.

Evidence

31.7% of our trash is compostable foods or liquids along with 11.6% being paper which could have been recycled, the paper can now not be recycled anymore because it was in the same trash bag with compost so now it is contaminated and that means food products have gotten it wet or something is on it and can't be reused or recycled. If we had taken the extra time to put paper in the recycling bin instead of being lazy and throw it in the trash, we could've had more of it be trash and made our data even better. We are doing great in our composting considering we started this last year but obviously our data at somersworth middle school can increase but we are still doing great with sorting. We have saved about \$1,115 and we have dropped down a dumpster from how much trash we stopped producing we have also decreased the weight we produce.

Reasoning

The reason I am bringing this up is because this is a very easy problem to fix, all we need to do is pay more attention about what we are throwing out, recycling, and or composting. We will be saving about \$1,115 dollars each year by just paying more attention to what we do with our food waste, that money could go towards funding more projects and more things around the city and in the school system.

Personal experience

The whole point of this was to spread the word around and have more people join into the composting community, we somersworth middle school want people to realize what we could do by just paying a little more attention to what we do with our food waste, the extra couple seconds it takes to put your food in the correct bin afterwards. Yes people will still mess up every once in a while but if we are still composting and putting the correct things in the right bins then we could save the environment around us and if this goes big eventually and hopefully state wide and then just have it keep growing from there. Even while doing this project i finished lunch then went to throw my compost/food waste in the trash bin not the compost bin, just noticing that is helping out just a little bit.

Where I got my evidence

[Edit](#)

Mid-year Composting Update



Somersworth Middle School
Friday, January 19, 2018

Why is composting important?

- The compost that we're sorting will be used for our community garden and other projects
- Currently we are saving trash bags and generating less waste in the form of trash per week

Safe, Respectful, Responsible, and Cooperative

Responsible: Reducing our environmental impact or footprint on our planet.

Cooperative: Connecting classrooms and community through the cafeteria

How much trash
do we create at
SMS?

**How many pounds of waste did we
compost per day?**

...

44.7

lbs per day!

**How many pounds of waste did we
compost per month?**

...

771.5

lbs per month!

**How well did we do sorting our
waste between trash, recycling
and composting?**

...

Example of
Bad Sorting:

Straws
Styrofoam
Plasticware

Picture
taken
12/20/2017



Example of
Meh
Sorting:

Rare white
paper plates

Picture
taken
12/20/2017



Example of Good Sorting:

Contains only -
Brown trays
Food
Food scraps

Picture taken 12/20/2017



Our results

...

Sorting Quality

Bad
25.0%



Good
25.0%

Meh
50.0%

Sorting Quality

Meh
25.0%



Good
75.0%

Newsflash!!!

**Due to your hard work,
we will now be sorting
our waste during
breakfast**

Educating the 6th Grade



Field Trip to the Turnkey Landfill in Rochester, NH and
Mr. Fox Composting in York, ME

Turnkey Landfill



Mr. Fox





Eco Stars

...



The Eco-Friendliness SYC Club



Weekly Members:
Jazmine West
Nate Marcus
Karter Brogan
Kaden Cassell
Amara Standish

What they did
every
Wednesday...
even in the
wind and cold

Weigh
compost,
check for
quality, pick up
trash



Eco-Star Sorters



10

For the month of: November

	Monday			Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday			Friday		
	Name	Signature	Date	Name	Signature	Date	Name	Signature	Date	Name	Signature	Date	Name	Signature	Date
6th Grade	1 Emma	[Signature]	11/15	1 Katelyn	[Signature]	11-14-17	1 [Signature]	[Signature]	11-15	1 [Signature]	[Signature]	11-15	1 Landon	[Signature]	11/15/17
	2 Malana	[Signature]	11/15/17	2 Natic	[Signature]	11-14-17	2 [Signature]	[Signature]	11-15-17	2 [Signature]	[Signature]	11-15	2 Jacob D	[Signature]	11/15/17
	3 [Signature]	[Signature]	11/15/17	3 Madison	[Signature]	11-15-17	3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]	
7th Grade	1 [Signature]			1 [Signature]	[Signature]		1 [Signature]	[Signature]		1 [Signature]	[Signature]		1 [Signature]	[Signature]	
	2 [Signature]			2 [Signature]	[Signature]		2 [Signature]	[Signature]		2 [Signature]	[Signature]		2 [Signature]	[Signature]	
	3 [Signature]			3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]	
8th Grade	1 [Signature]			1 [Signature]	[Signature]		1 [Signature]	[Signature]		1 [Signature]	[Signature]		1 [Signature]	[Signature]	
	2 [Signature]			2 [Signature]	[Signature]		2 [Signature]	[Signature]		2 [Signature]	[Signature]		2 [Signature]	[Signature]	
	3 [Signature]			3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]		3 [Signature]	[Signature]	

*If someone subs for you, have them sign their name in your space

*Sorting volunteers will watch students sort and help answer any questions about any items that students are unsure about for the entire month. Give positive feedback to students who sort correctly.

Moving Forward

Continue to step up our game sorting, especially at the end of 8th Grade lunch and during breakfast

Ask a friend if you need help sorting

Join EcoSWAT SYC Club on Thursdays to work with a team to find other ways to help SMS become a greener school

Hello Im Jack Welch and Im an 8th grader at Somersworth Middle School. I want to share some information on the rules and regulations of compost in NH and the benefits of changing them.

Currently in new hampshire we have three types of compost

Class AA: Stable, humus-like substance and all a plant based matter and contain limits of heavy metal compost

Class A is compost is compost that will not gain any heat and cant be used on crops

off spec doesn't meet any of these criteria and usually used in topping or capping landfills

[Minnetonka did the same investigation](#) as we did at sms they found a huge issue with their silverware. use in 2016 at sms we found 1100lbs of plastic waste we then increased our education on recycling students wanted to find ways to reduce our waste on one time plastics use and find solutions to our heavy food waste problem

[Mr. Fox= Composting company](#)

Solution to food waste. [Saved closed to 8,000 lbs.](#) Of food waste from entering into Turnkey Landfill!

Gain several yds. Compost for our garden projects around campus made from our food waste.

Our next steps are to look towards single use plastic reducing down to 0%

with the help of a grant from the minnesota pollution control agency That helped them buy reusable silverware that resulted in the reduction of 6712lbs of trash in a year!
and saved 23,000 dollars over three years
the manufacturing of metal utensils is way better for the environment
(Greenhouse Gasses ↓and lower H₂O for

Each utensil costs a fraction of a cent more and over time in a very short amount of time it will pay off and start saving us money
Says the department of education

If we changed this law then all these towns and cities in the middle of the state it will create an influx of jobs it will save towns and cities money
It's going to reduce the amount of trash going into the landfill