

Sustainability Committee

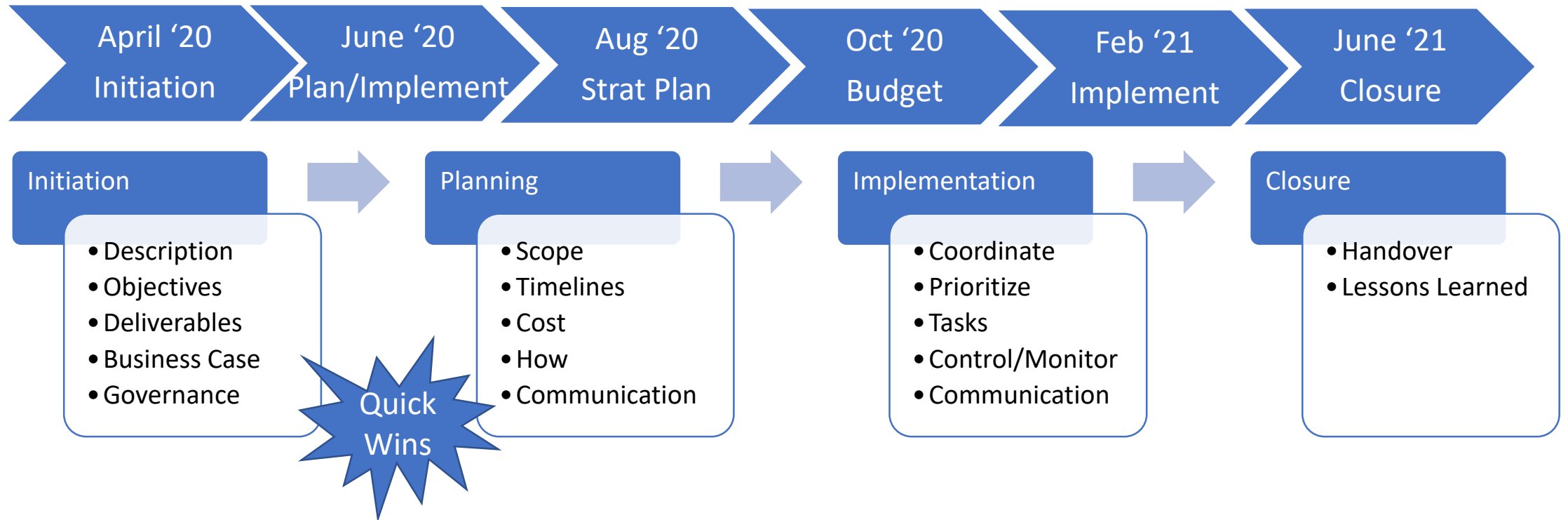
Advisory Committee of the Region18 Board of Education

Update to the BoE

Clean Energy Resolution

June 3, 2020

SC Planning



Each workstream will progress individually, coordinated by SC team, with approval from BoE & Administration

Workstreams are populating their teams – students, staff, LOL residents welcome. Experts invited, ad hoc.

Education Workstream

- Explore Greenleaf Initiative and National Green Ribbon School status
 - *Provide effective environmental and sustainability education*
 - *Improve the health and wellness of students and staff*
 - *Reduce environmental impact and cost of the resources used in the school*
- Build awareness throughout R18 schools supporting and reinforcing SC initiatives and behavior
- Support independently driven curriculum (NGSS) and Coordinated School Health Council goals

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (3R) Workstream

- Branded plastic water bottles, plastic-ware, composting, terracycle, awareness
- Waste and Recycling Haulers
 - Zoom meeting with CPWM, Jansky, and Williwaste on May 7, 2020
 - Goal was to gain knowledge of the flow of waste and recycling after it leaves campus and measures in-place

Waste and Recycling Haulers – Key Findings

1. Recycled materials are being processed as recycling - they are not incinerated like waste materials
 - There was uncertainty within Region 18 community regarding this point
 - All waste is transported to Hartford incinerator
2. Haulers are not recording volume of waste/recycling being hauled from Region 18
 - This data could have been very useful in measuring future successes of Sustainability Committee initiatives
 - Other metrics will be considered (student-led project)
 - No possibility for showing reduction in volumes of material hauled off campus for future cost-savings

Waste and Recycling Haulers – Next Steps

- Haulers agreed that no improvement was needed by Region 18 in our current practices of waste and recycling
- It is clear that our community can do better (single-use plastic water bottles frequently end up in the trash, for example)
- Custodians report that education of Region 18 students and staff in proper recycling protocol would help streamline their jobs
- Plan to increase awareness and participation is developing
 - Goal – Kick-off campaign when students return in the fall

Water Bottle Fillers

- Goal is to replace or retrofit water fountains with bottle fillers
 - Reduce reliance on single-use plastics
 - Visual cue to region 18 community to “reach for reusable” and “stop single-use”
- Current status
 - HS gymnasium, commons, and second floor (3 total)
 - MS has two installed and two more on hand will be installed this summer (4 total)
 - One at LC on hand to be installed (1)
- Four additional fillers are requested
 - LC = 1 additional filler
 - MC = 2 fillers

Water Bottle Fillers

- Estimated cost: \$500-\$1000 each unit
 - Region 18 crew to install
- Total cost anticipated not to exceed \$3500
- Total units: HS 3, MS 4, LC 2, MC 2



ASK: Purchase and install 3 additional water bottle filling stations for R18 at a cost not to exceed \$3000 from FY 19/20 budget sources

Renewables

- Meetings with Bluebird/M&J bus vendor
- Initial discussions regarding available grants, infrastructure requirements, town collaborations
- MC solar roof discussion progressing
- 100% Clean Energy School District Resolution passed for recommendation to BoE – see additional information