



Credo High School

One Planet Peer Review 2017

Project information

Project Name	Credo High School - http://www.credohigh.org/
Project Type	School
Brief Description	<p>High school with 350 students predicted to grow to 600. The school has been operating since 2011 and in 2017 moved to a new site at SOMO Village (a One Planet Community).</p> <p>It has been using the One Planet Principles for the past year but has integrating sustainability into the Waldorf curriculum from the outset.</p> <p>The school building (approx. 45,000sqft) was an existing commercial building that is now being remodelled to meet the needs of a growing school.</p> <p>Located in a One Planet Community that will be addressing key issues like energy, water and sustainable construction materials.</p>
One Planet Integrator	Marika Ramsden (Credo School)
Peer Reviewer	Ben Gill (Bioregional)
Performance	Planetary Leader

Peer-Review Summary

Credo School's One Planet Action Plan has been awarded Planetary Leadership.

Highlights:

- This is an inspiring project that is fully aligned with the goals and philosophy of One Planet Living, across its campus, curriculum and the community.
- The school's desire to promote One Planet Living to all the communities that it is engaged with - the school community, the local community and the Waldorf school network - is highly impressive
- While more detail is needed on quantified targets for some of the principles - water, transport and energy - this data will be gathered in the first year.
- Sustainable transport is an issue due to the wide catchment area of the school and all levers to address this need to be used.
- Credo chose to relocate to a One Planet Community to minimise its impact.

Outcome of Peer-Review

<p>Project Sponsor:</p> <p>Chip Romer – Executive Director Credo School</p>	<p>Credo High School was founded to inspire, educate, nurture and support young leaders of the future, recognizing that they are going to inherit unprecedented challenges as they soon become adults. Climate change and its related issues are the most urgent areas that Credo graduates will need to address, and we are intentionally doing our best to prepare them for success.</p> <p>The school was specifically designed to be located within SOMO Village, a One Planet Community--so that the One Planet Principles will inform our students' developing values during high school; our expectation is that Credo graduates will then disseminate those principles as they move out into the world. Our science curriculum includes courses such as Climate Change, Environmental Science, Ocean Ecology and Biomimicry. All students study Farming and Food Literacy and work on the school's two-acre farm. One Planet Living is an elective course for students in grades 10-12. All students have a class each week in Social Sustainability, learning how to work effectively with others, and in Personal Sustainability, deepening their self-knowledge.</p> <p>As a primary leader of the fast-growing U.S. Public Waldorf school movement, Credo is committed to introducing One Planet Living to other schools.</p>
<p>Project One Planet Integrator:</p> <p>Marika Ramsden</p>	<p>As a Public Waldorf school, Credo is unique and subsequently draws students from towns up to 50 miles away. This is a challenge the Credo community faces in terms of sustainable transportation and one they will need to creatively address in the near future.</p> <p>Not only is Credo located within the larger community of SOMO Village, the first One Planet Community in North America, it has also had sustainability at the heart of its curriculum from day one. Credo administration and staff believe they are responsible for educating the next generation to become change makers for a better future. Students today are acutely aware of local and global challenges they will continue to face in their lifetimes. The Credo curriculum meets the students by providing them with the knowledge, practical skills, experience and community connections they need to address these challenges. By urging students to rethink systems of social inequity and environmental unsustainability and bring forward their own innovative solutions, Credo demonstrates the commitment to graduate ecoliterate, socially conscious students, eager to engage with the world around them.</p> <p>This is why I believe Credo High School is a Planetary Leader and will help guide the way towards a One Planet future.</p>
<p>Peer Reviewer:</p> <p>Benjamin</p>	<p>Credo's One Planet Action Plan is exceptionally ambitious with a clear well-structured strategy. Furthermore, they already have the committed team in place that will be required to deliver the plan. Key points to note are:</p>

Gill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The campus is based in a One Planet Community and so the basic infrastructure - energy, water, construction materials - are well-aligned with the One Planet Goals. • The school curriculum aims to fully align itself with One Planet Living and already covers many sustainability issues. • As part of the curriculum the school and pupils are reaching out to the wider community to further spread the word about sustainable living. • While sustainable transport is an issue the commitment shown by the school leads me to believe that they can address this satisfactorily with sufficient resources and attention. <p>This is why I believe Credo School should be recognised as a Planetary Leader.</p>
<p>Bioregional:</p> <p>Pooran Desai</p>	<p>Credo School is the first school to have made the One Planet Principles part of its core curriculum in 2016 and so has already been engaging students in sustainability as a core life skill. The school has top level support from the Executive Director, Chip Romer and Education Director, Thom Shaefer. Students have attended and contributed their ideas and experience to a One Planet Integrator training day, working alongside engineers, architects, planners, developers and sustainability consultants. The school has also reached out to the wider community, for example supporting a One Planet Youth Summit.</p> <p>There is more to do as, for example, on transport, but there is no doubt that this school is a Planetary Leader setting targets in line with the One Planet Goals and with actions across its 'Curriculum, Campus and Community'.</p> <p>We agree with the peer reviewer that Credo High School's One Planet Action Plan should be endorsed as a demonstrating Planetary Leadership in One Planet Living.</p>
<p>Expert Panel member:</p> <p>Marja Williams</p>	<p>The One Planet Action Plan for Credo School covers an extensive list of potential actions and programs to meet the goals for each of the principles. As the facility is located in a One Planet Community, the school will likely have met the goals for zero carbon from buildings. I would encourage the school to focus efforts on reducing the carbon impact from transportation and managing their waste stream, two areas that can have a significant impact and help to educate both the students and their families about how everyday choices can impact their environment. I would also encourage the school to set specific targets to measure their progress against.</p> <p>The incorporation of the One Planet Principles into every aspect of the school, from the building, to the programming, to the curriculum will have a broad and long-term impact. This will demonstrate the incredible potential for our educational system to set an example for many generations to come. The school's participation in the surrounding community and its commitment to inclusiveness is exemplary and embodies everything the One Planet Principles seek to encourage.</p>

Peer Review

Scope and impact

	Comment	Highlights	Opportunities	Rating 1-5
Impact	The Action Plan has a very broad scope addressing potential to impact the community and integrating One Planet Living into the curriculum	Aiming to drive water and energy saving in the community	Supply chain engagement	5
		Detailed waste analysis already undertaken	Baselines and benchmarks will enable more detailed actions to be developed	
			Transport is the biggest challenge and needs to be addressed in detail	
Ambition	Campus: aided by being developed in a One Planet Community (SOMO Village) the construction and operation of the campus is well aligned with the One Planet goals		Transport outcome and target need to be defined Procurement and supply chain engagement can be strengthened over time	4
	Community: The aim to reach out into the school and local community is impressive, and the aim to benefit under-served communities	Facilitating infrastructure improvements in the community and range of events proposed		5
	Curriculum: Excellent set of goals and aspirations	Broad learning including; agriculture, practical skills and sustainability in its true sense		5
Transformation		Real effort made to have a wider impact on education and the community; One Planet Summit and reaching out to all Waldorf schools		5

Action Plan

	Comment	Highlights	Opportunities	Rating 1-5
Health and Happiness	Health and wellbeing fully integrated into the campus, community and curriculum	Mindfulness classes	Provide additional clarity on how physical health is being addressed	5

	Comment	Highlights	Opportunities	Rating 1-5
Equity and Local Economy	Engagement with sustainable businesses encouraged	Procurement policy to maximise benefit to local economy	Further develop strategy to ensure that under-served communities are being served	5
Culture and Community	Extensive set of strategies to create a culture of sustainability. Curriculum addresses local culture, but this could be highlighted more	One Planet workshops for teachers and parents. Sustainability and One Planet Living integrated into the curriculum, school life (assemblies), personal projects and campus	Provide more clarity on how local heritage and culture will be supported	5
Land and Nature	SOMO Village and Credo both aiming to have a positive impact on biodiversity through the development	Wildlife restoration skills integrated into the curriculum Events planned to engage the local community in nature conservation		5
Sustainable Water	SOMO Village requirements will ensure the operations are water efficient, monitoring and sub-metering needs to be arranged	Enabling parents to install an 'laundry to landscape' scheme at their own homes	When meters have been installed monitoring and reporting on performance will provide useful information for Californian schools in general	5
Local and Sustainable Food	Food will be grown on-site and agriculture is part of the curriculum	Produce will be provided to a local sandwich shop, as well as food waste collected and composted	While the impacts of agriculture are part of the curriculum specifically highlighting the benefits of a lower meat and dairy diet would be beneficial	4
Travel and Transport	As a tuition -free school Waldorf is unique and will attract pupils from a wide area - making addressing sustainable transport a challenging area	Car-sharing will be promoted, and aim to negotiate a student discount on the SMART train. SOMO Village is a walkable and cyclable location Partnerships with sustainable transport initiatives to drive promotion of these options	Develop strategies to encourage sustainable transport amongst teaching staff - where the school has most influence. Investigate all opportunities, including through car-parking fees, to encourage pupils to arrive by alternatives to	3

	Comment	Highlights	Opportunities	Rating 1-5
			conventional single occupancy private cars	
Materials and products	Inventory of procurement will be done to inform a detailed strategy on minimising the impacts of procurement	Ensure all cleaning products are non-toxic	Engage with supply chain - provide information on One Planet Living, offer workshops etc Promote the sharing economy further	4
Zero Waste	Detailed waste audit already undertaken as part of the curriculum	Onsite composting and integration of waste issues into the curriculum	Wider engagement with waste contractors to identify opportunities for achieving zero waste	5
Zero carbon energy	SOMO Village will be ensuring 100% green electricity but metering has yet to be arranged	Build energy literacy into the curriculum	Provide additional clarity on how the green energy will be supplied	4