



HOME Program/Renton Academy

School district: Renton

School location: Renton

Began participating in Green Schools Program: September 2016

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in January 2017

Level Two of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in February 2018

Level Three of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2019

Sustaining Green School 2022-23: Achieved in June 2023

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- The school achieved a 66% recycling rate by:
 - Collecting compostable materials in the lunchroom and family room in 2016.
 - Sharing waste reduction and recycling information, reminders, and successes in weekly newsletters, intercom announcements, and Facebook posts.
 - Holding Zero Waste Wednesdays to encourage students to bring durable, reusable containers and water bottles to school.
- The school reduced paper use by:
 - Placing Good on One Side (GOOS) paper reuse trays and double-sided copying instructions next to printing stations.
 - Sending school newsletters electronically.
- The Helping Hands class:
 - Created posters for the cafeteria to assist with correct waste sorting.
 - Toured the King County Cedar Hills Regional Landfill to learn about what happens to garbage after it has been thrown away.
 - Built a worm bin for the school garden.
- The school collected polystyrene which a parent volunteer took to a recycling facility.
- Parents and students received reminders about recycling and waste reduction practices through newsletter articles and regular announcements.



Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- The Green Team established a 5% energy reduction goal.
- Energy conservation signs from the Green Schools Program were posted on light switches, computers, and monitors to remind staff and students to turn them off when not in use.
- Facts and tips about reducing energy use were shared in weekly newsletters.
- The school maintained its waste reduction and recycling practices.

Water Conservation (Level Three)

- The school had a King County Going Green Together assembly at the beginning of the school year to remind students about reducing waste and recycling.
- Water conservation and climate change information were included in the bi-weekly newsletter to staff and parents.
- In April 2019, students took the bus instead of cars to visit King County Waste Water Treatment Plant. Students wrote articles about what they learned and shared it with the school community.
- The school changed aerators in sinks and estimated the aerators saved one gallon of water per minute.
- Turn off faucets signs from the Green Schools Program were posted at all sinks to promote the practice of keeping water off while soaping hands.

Sustaining Green School 2022-23

- At the start of the school year, the school shared with new and returning students and families how HOME Renton Academy reduces waste, recycles, and conserves energy and water. Through newsletters, social media, and PA announcements, the community was encouraged to continue recycling paper, empty bottles and cans, light bulbs, ink cartridges, and empty plastic bags.
- GOOS (Good on One Side) bins helped reduce paper waste because students and staff used the blank sides of the paper.
- The school started a Christmas Light recycling program, and several families participated.