



## **Academy Schools**

**School district:** Private

**School location:** Tukwila

**Began participating in Green Schools Program:** September 2009

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:** May 2011

### **Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)**

- Academy Schools decreased waste and increased recycling from a 23% recycling rate to a 34% recycling rate, thanks to several waste reduction and recycling successes.
- Stickers from the Green Schools Program were placed on all indoor recycling bins showing what materials can be recycled.
- Lunchroom monitors helped educate students about what materials should be placed in recycling and garbage bins.
- The school switched from having teachers voluntarily take recyclable materials home to place in their household recycling containers to contracting with a collection service for recycling collection.
- To reduce wasted food, Academy Schools started a policy in fall 2010 to send students home with their uneaten food. This practice encouraged students to eat the lunches packed by their families and educated families about what the quantities their children were able to eat at school.
- The school used durable utensils in the lunchroom.
- All classrooms were given containers for paper only used on one side. Students and teachers used the blank sides of the paper for notes.
- In 2009-10, students made phone calls to unsubscribe the school from unwanted subscriptions.
- Upper School students who emptied trash and recyclable materials from indoor bins learned first-hand about recycling and encouraged younger students to improve their waste reduction and recycling practices.