



## **Bellevue School District**

### **Began participating in Green Schools Program:**

- District participation began in Sept. 2008
- District schools received assistance from 2004 - 2012

**Level One Green School District:** Achieved in May 2010

**Level Two Green School District:** Achieved in May 2011

**Level Three Green School District:** Achieved in May 2012

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

- The district improved its waste reduction and recycling procedures and practices, and asked all its schools to do the same.
- With assistance from the Green Schools Program and City of Bellevue, 27 district schools started and improved waste reduction and recycling practices, and all 27 were recognized as King County Level One Green Schools for their waste reduction and recycling practices.
- Green cleaning products were used, and Integrated Pest Management practices were put into place to reduce pesticide use.

### **Energy Conservation (Level Two) and**

### **Water Conservation (Level Three)**

- Bellevue School District used the Washington State Sustainable Schools Protocol as a guide to build healthy, sustainable school facilities. Each new school facility incorporated features to encourage efficiency and conservation.
- The district carried out district-wide cost-saving conservation measures, including energy-efficient appliances and lighting, vending misers to control energy used by vending machines, and faucet aerators to reduce water use.
- At the district level, behind-the-scenes changes were made to conserve resources, including shutting down HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) during unoccupied periods, and programming computers to automatically shut down at a certain time each day.



King County Green Schools Program

# Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

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## Awards

- Bellevue School District received July 2012 King County Best Workplaces for Waste Prevention and Recycling.
- The district received a Recycler of the Year-Youth Education Award from Washington State Recycling Association in May 2012.
- Somerset Elementary received a 2011 Terry Husseman Sustainable School Award for teaching students and staff to reduce waste by reusing, composting, and recycling at home and school.
- International School received a 2011 Terry Husseman Sustainable School Award for its Green Club's adoption of sustainable practices to reduce energy use and waste at school.
- Ted Cox, science teacher at Bellevue High School and advisor for Earth Bound, the student environmental club, received a King County Earth Hero at School award in April 2010.
- Wendy Shol, a teacher at both Sherwood Forest and Bennett Elementary schools, received a King County Earth Hero award in April 2009 for work with the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Program and Puget Sound Save the Whales.
- Medina Elementary School's Green Team received a King County Earth Hero award in April 2008 for its Make One Change Challenge video.
- Thanh Nguyen, custodian at Newport High School, received a King County Earth Hero at School award in April 2008 for his efforts to boost recycling.

## Comment

"We appreciated all the assistance and encouragement from King County Green Schools Program. The program is truly a class act and every school district in the County should access this service, which is a win-win for the environment and for school districts." - **Nancy Larson**, Bellevue School District manager of Facilities, Maintenance and Athletics, 2012