King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

Eastside Preparatory School

School district: Private
School location: Kirkland
Began participating in the Green Schools Program: September 2009

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2011
Level Two of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2012

Lunchroom recycling station and Green School banner.

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Eastside Prep maintained a recycling rate of 52 percent.
- Students and faculty collected food scraps and coffee grounds to be composted in a worm bin. Compost from the worm bin was used to fertilize the school's garden beds.
    - Organic gardening beds were expanded in 2011, allowing for more food to be grown for the school cafeteria.
- Paper use was reduce by increased use of laptops by upper school students.
- Readings and assignments were shared electronically to reduce the need for paper copies.
- Eastside Prep installed a five-step recycling system in the lunchroom to facilitate recycling and composting collection of nearly all lunch waste.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- Eighth-grade students designed a model island which would produce all the energy it consumed and deal with the consequences of the energy production industries they choose. To reduce environmental impacts, students learned about ways to reduce energy consumption. As part of this assignment, each eighth-grade student completed a personal energy audit.
- Seventh-grade students visited the Elwha River restoration and dam removal project in May 2012 and constructed a display of the impacts dams have on Washington's environment.
- In 2011-12, the school expanded and renovated its facilities to improve energy conservation and efficiency, including installation of new roofs on four buildings. White roofing with an extra six inches of insulation was installed to minimize air conditioning.
- Seven new HVAC units on four buildings replaced eight 30-year-old units, new energy-efficient doors and windows were installed in two buildings, and energy-efficient shades were installed on all windows in four new buildings.

- New motion sensors on four buildings replaced the old light switches, and high-efficiency fluorescent tubes replaced less-efficient lighting in two buildings.
- In two new buildings, finished cement floors were selected instead of vinyl composite floors.
- Energy was saved by installing motion detectors in classrooms and light timers in restrooms.

Water Conservation

- No-flush urinals were installed in several restrooms, saving approximately 100,000 gallons of water annually.
- A rain catchment barrel was installed in May 2011 to irrigate a vegetable garden and native plant beds.

Comments

"The Green Schools Program has been a great help to us in our efforts to reduce our impact and increase our efficiency. Thank you for your guidance throughout this process." - **Tobias Tillemans, teacher**