



## **Federal Way High School**

**School district:** Federal Way

**School location:** Federal Way

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:** October 2012

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:** Achieved in May 2013

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

- Federal Way High School improved its recycling rate from 9% in 2011 to 23% in spring 2013.
- Students assisted head custodian Pat Pettygrove by collecting classroom recyclable materials and placing them in larger hallway recycling bins.
- In November 2013, the school started to collect recyclable materials and compostable materials, including food scraps and napkins, in the lunchroom.
- Pizza boxes from the Student Store were added to compostable materials bins, which were picked up for transport to Cedar Grove Composting, a regional composting facility.
- Unpainted, unstained clean scrap wood from the school's wood shop were collected for recycling.
- A Green Team was formed, and Green Team students:
  - Met regularly and created a plan to improve lunchroom recycling collection.
  - Created and shared video announcements about the school's participation in the Green Schools Program and about waste reduction and recycling practices.
  - At all-school assemblies, shared why reducing waste and recycling matter and what materials can be recycled and composted.
  - Created 3-dimensional posters with actual items attached to show students what belongs in cafeteria recycling, composting, and garbage bins.
  - Helped monitor lunchroom sorting stations to help fellow students to sort materials correctly.



King County Green Schools Program

# *Success Story*

*Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink*

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- At lunch and staff meetings, teacher Lauren Hamilton shared announcements and reminders about the school's waste reduction and recycling goals and expectations.
- The Environmental Science class received a King County Hazards on the Homefront classroom lesson on safer choices to hazardous household products. In a lab, the students tested and compared safer and more hazardous products.