



Juanita Elementary School

School district: Lake Washington

School location: Kirkland

Began participating in Green Schools Program: January 2018

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in January 2019

Level Two of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in June 2023

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Juanita Elementary School achieved a recycling rate of 55%.
- Tips and strategies for reducing food waste were included in weekly announcements and in the school newsletter.
- The school lunchroom used durable, reusable trays.
- Stickers from the Green Schools Program showing what can be recycled were placed on recycling bins, and stickers showing what can be composted were placed on food scrap bins.
- Associate principal Edith Brumant conducted demonstrations during lunch explaining how to sort materials into garbage, recycling, and composting bins.
- To collect classroom food scraps, 5-gallon buckets were placed in each classroom. Third-grade students presented to all classrooms on why composting food scraps benefits the environment and what materials can be composted. Each day, the third-grade students emptied classroom food scrap buckets into larger compost bins for the custodian to place in the outdoor composting container which was picked up by a hauler and transported to a regional composting facility.
- At the start of the 2018-19 school year, Juanita Elementary held an all-school assembly provided by King County about waste reduction and recycling.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- The school maintained its waste reduction and recycling practices while learning about energy conservation.



King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

- To reduce paper use, Good On One Side paper reuse boxes were in classrooms.
- Green Team members, totaling 40 students in third- to fifth-grade, completed a walk, ride, or roll to school week. The weeklong activity was promoted as a way to reduce use of fossil fuels and provide a more sustainable solution to using a vehicle to get to and from school. Each day that week, facts were shared about energy saved by avoiding driving to school.
- Staff and students turned off lights when not needed, and staff used the dishwasher in the staff lounge to reduce energy and water consumption.
- The Green Team maintained a school garden, and hosted an Earth Day event to engage students in actions to protect the environment and conserve natural resources.