



Millennium Elementary School

School district: Kent

School location: Kent

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: November 2011

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

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Millennium Elementary achieved a recycling rate of 53%. Thanks to increased recycling, garbage collection service decreased from twice to once per week.
- The school promoted waste reduction and recycling practices through regular classroom and lunchtime announcements. The parent newsletter included articles about the school's conservation activities and successes.
- Recycling bins from the Green Schools Program were placed in all classrooms, offices, and cafeteria, and the school recycled paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, and milk cartons. Recycling stickers from the Green Schools Program were placed on all school recycling bins.
- Straws and plastic-wrapped packets of utensils, straws, and napkins were eliminated district-wide. In their place, sanitary bulk dispensers offered an individual selection of unwrapped utensils and napkins.
- The central district kitchen donated leftover edible food that could not be eaten prior to its expiration date.
- Fifth-grade classrooms offered paper reuse boxes for paper printed on one side, for students to use for notes.
- To reduce use of paper and toner, photocopier default was set to double-sided, and printers removed from classrooms were sent to surplus or recycled.
- Classroom smart boards decreased paper use. Reusable supplies were available in the teacher workroom and in classrooms.
- Staff used durable, reusable plates and mugs.