



Raisbeck Aviation High School

School district: Highline

School location: Des Moines

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: June 2009

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

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

Student Green Team recognition: Received in June 2023

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Aviation High increased its recycling rate from 28% to 35% as a result of a school-wide recycling program in classrooms, offices, hallways, and lunchroom.
- Aviation custodians and teachers set up a recycling collection system to increase consistency of classroom and hallway recycling collection.
- Aviation placed recycling bins in several classrooms and work spaces that previously only had garbage cans. On recycling bins throughout the school, Aviation's Ecology Club placed recycling stickers from the Green Schools Program showing what can be recycled.
- To promote recycling, Ecology Club members conducted outreach and education, including classroom presentations, a school-wide assembly, staff meeting presentations, posters, and recycling audits in every classroom.
- After surveying teachers, the Ecology Club made and delivered paper reuse bins for all classrooms, so paper used only on one side can be used as scratch paper.
- The club collected bottle caps and sent them to Aveda, a salon company that used them to make new products.
- The school included recycling tips and information in its online newsletters.
- A King County representative provided a recycling presentation and trivia game at the school-wide Earth Day event.



Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- With leadership from student John Luu, Environmental Club president, biology teacher and Club advisor, and principal Therese Tipton, the school maintained its waste reduction and recycling practices while two student clubs focused on energy conservation education and actions.
- Posters throughout the school informed students about how to sort recyclable materials and garbage, and the Environmental Club shared information about sustainable gift-giving around the holiday season.
- The school's Green Energy Team of over 20 students learned about the future of green energy by constructing a functioning solar car.
- Seven Green Energy Team members visited Hazel Valley Elementary School in Highline Public Schools to educate students about basic solar energy principles and energy conservation practices.
- The Environmental Club with about 40 members from grades 9 - 12 discussed ways to conserve energy, and organized an Earth Day fundraiser selling reusable tote bags and plants.
- Classroom lights were placed on motion sensors, and the facility's numerous windows were designed to allow occupants to take advantage of natural light.

Award

Aviation High was honored by the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for overall academic excellence and science learning. Preparing students for college, career, and citizenship includes environmental stewardship.

Comment

"Guidance and assistance from the good folks at the Green Schools Program has been tremendously helpful in getting our fledgling recycling program off the ground. They have been generous with timely and helpful advice and encouragement, and we look forward to continuing to work with them to make our school even greener!"

- Scott McComb, director of STEM Leadership