



Skyline High School

School district: Issaquah

School location: Sammamish

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: November 2012

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

Level Two of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2014

Level Three of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2018

Sustaining Green School 2018-19: Achieved in May 2019

Sustaining Green School 2022-23: Achieved in May 2023

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Skyline High School achieved a 55% recycling rate.
- In 2012-13, Skyline started to collect recyclable and compostable materials at lunch, resulting in a decrease in lunchtime garbage bins from 16 to 8.
- Custodian Wes Buchanan supported the school's waste reduction and recycling efforts by assisting with collection of lunchtime recyclable and compostable materials and by monitoring outdoor collection containers.
- The Green Team educated the school community about waste reduction and recycling practices through video and intercom announcements, lunchroom posters, and reminders at staff meetings.
- Environmental science students surveyed outdoor waste collection containers for three weeks to calculate the school's recycling rate.
- Health education classes participated in King County classroom workshops to learn about consumption habits and how to reduce food waste.
- In 2013-14, the school's Green Team received a King County mini-grant to create sorting stations in the lunchroom and other student eating areas.



- Green Team students created 3-dimensional posters with actual items attached, to hang at lunchroom sorting stations to show students how to sort. Recycling signs with images of recyclable, compostable, and garbage items were provided by the Green Schools Program to post on recycling bins throughout the school.
- To raise awareness about paper use, Skyline High held a “no copy week” once each semester. All multi-use printers on campus were set to two-sided printing.
- Foam soap dispensers and recycled-content paper products were purchased to help conserve resources.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- The Skyline High Green Team met regularly to plan waste reduction and energy conservation education and improvements.
- The student Environmental Club discussed waste reduction, recycling, and energy conservation project ideas with a King County Green Team specialist.
- The Environmental Club created PA and video announcements to educate staff and students about waste reduction, recycling, and energy conservation.
- The school posted energy conservation signs from the Green Schools Program in computer labs and near all light switches to remind staff and students to turn off lights and electronics when they were not needed.
- School vending machine display lights were permanently turned off.
- Issaquah School District installed computer software that automatically shut down computers each night.
- Custodian Wes Buchanan regularly monitored the school’s energy use.
- Green Team staff advisors shared energy conservation information and goals through the school’s electronic newsletter and during staff meetings.

Water Conservation (Level Three)

- Skyline installed rain barrels to collect water for irrigation of school grounds.
- The school created a pledge about conserving water and reducing water pollution, and shared it via school website, announcements, and SPTV videos.



- Green Team students tested a local body of water for contaminants and quality, and shared outcomes.
- Students audited the school's faucets for leaks, and the school's Green Team measured faucet flow and requested aerators to be installed.

Sustaining Green School recognition

Skyline High sustained and built on its Level One waste reduction and recycling practices, Level Two energy conservation practices, and Level Three water conservation strategies. How the school did this is described below.

Sustaining Green School 2018-19

- Students completed an educational campaign to reduce single-use plastic water bottles. They shared waste statistics in daily announcements and raffled off reusable water bottlers on Earth Day.
- Green Team students:
 - Held regular club discussions on conservation topics including waste reduction and climate change.
 - Worked in the community garden and maintained rain barrels.
 - Encouraged students to carpool or bus to school.
 - Visited the Mayor of Issaquah's green home.

Sustaining Green School 2022-23

- The Green Team helped start collection of used paper towels in school restrooms. The paper towels were added to food scraps and other compostable materials for transport to the regional composting facility.
- To help improve lunchroom sorting, the team updated 3-dimensional posters and created a video to show at an assembly.
- The school installed a water bottle filling station in its cafeteria and ASB students created a video to encourage students to bring reusable water bottles to refill.



King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

- The Green Team conducted a fast fashion social media campaign with the help of Skyline Amnesty, the school's human rights club, and created a video about how fast fashion impacts both the environment and human rights and what students can do to help.
- In partnership with the Trash Talk Project, the team hosted a booth at the Issaquah Salmon Days Festival to help educate over 600 people on how to sort recyclable and compostable materials specific to the city they lived in.
- The Green Team placed bins in every classroom to collect used pens and other writing tools through Terracycle, a company that used the materials to make new products.
- The team planned a series of events near Earth Day, including a Youth Table Talk event and a showing of the film "Kiss The Ground" followed by Q&A. Middle and high school students from the area were invited to attend to discuss environmental issues.

Award

Custodian Wes Buchanan received a King County Earth Hero at School award in May 2014 for his support of and participation in the school's Green Team.