



## **Albert Talley Senior High School**

*(formerly called Secondary Learning Center)*

**School District:** Renton

**School Location:** Unincorporated King County

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:** February 2013

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:** Achieved in June 2014

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

- The school increased its recycling rate from 20 percent to 81 percent.
- In 2013, the school began collecting recyclable materials in its lunchroom. A recycling bin also is located next to each garbage container in classrooms and office spaces.
- In spring 2014, the school piloted a collection program for compostable materials in the lunchroom, kitchen, and culinary arts programs. During the pilot, three 96-gallon carts for compostable materials were filled every week with food scraps and other compostable materials.
- Green Team members and custodial waste reduction and recycling efforts helped the school reduce its monthly garbage collection from 33.6 cubic yards to 16.8 cubic yards, and increased its recycling from 16.8 cubic yards to 67.2 cubic yards.
- In fall 2013, Cara Mothersbaugh's Sustainable Science class participated in a King County Green Team workshop. The students created a video that aired during homeroom to educate students on the importance of waste reduction and recycling and what materials can be recycled.
- The student Green Team created 3-dimensional posters with actual recyclable materials to help students properly sort recyclable and compostable materials in the lunchroom.
- A lunchroom share table was set up for unopened packaged food and drink items to be redistributed.



King County Green Schools Program

# Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

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- Student Green Team members monitored lunchroom garbage, recycling, and composting containers to ensure proper recycling and waste disposal.
- The school replaced plastic-wrapped utensils and straws with unwrapped plastic utensils and straws.
- Staff members were encouraged to limit use of paper hand-outs and to make double-sided copies. The school established a limit of 500 copies per month for each teacher.
- The school reduced paper use by communicating with parents and staff through an electronic bulletin.
- Staff members placed unused or unneeded supplies for reuse in the staff supply room.
- Foam soap dispensers were used in restrooms.

For more information about the school's conservation achievements and participation in the Green Schools Program, contact:

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