



Chautauqua Elementary School

School District: Vashon Island

School Location: Vashon Island

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: June 2016

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2017

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

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Chautauqua Elementary School maintained a recycling rate of 49 percent.
- A Green Team of 25 fourth- and fifth-grader students was established.
- The school created a video highlighting recycling and waste reduction practices to be shown on Earth Day.
- The Green Team worked on a campaign to limit paper towel use where members made announcements and posters as a reminder to only use one paper towel.
- The school custodian was trained to monitor the recycling station and ensure proper disposal of items.
- Green Team students made badges that were handed out to students who sorted their waste properly without any assistance.
- Chautauqua students created 3-dimensional posters with actual lunchroom items to show what can and cannot be recycled and composted.
- Staff members used a swap table for unused supplies that could be picked up by staff members who would use the supplies.
- To reduce waste, the school used reusable lunch trays and utensils.
- For Earth Day, students participated in the Procession of the Green Team where members carried signs displaying messages about their progress and successes.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- The school installed occupancy sensors on the lights in all bathrooms.



King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

- “Turn off Lights” and “Turn off Equipment” signs were placed near switches and equipment in all classrooms to remind students and staff to turn them off when not in use.
- Chautauqua regularly shared energy conservation facts during monthly morning announcements.
- Students created “Power off when you leave” posters to hang around the school.
- Teachers were sent notices to turn off lights in unoccupied spaces, shut down computers when not in use, and use daylight rather than electric light whenever possible.
- Students and staff were encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather rather than adjust the thermostat.
- Custodial staff regularly checked the entire school for energy waste and reported results to maintenance staff.
- Teachers ensured windows and doors were closed while heating/cooling was on and closed blinds at the end of the school day to keep heat in.

For more information about this school’s participation in the King County Green Schools Program, contact:

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