



Alexander Graham Bell Elementary School

School District: Lake Washington

School Location: Kirkland

Began participating in Green Schools Program: December 2018

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2019

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Alexander Graham Bell Elementary achieved a recycling rate of 43 percent and reduced garbage volume thanks to the following changes.
- The school made regular announcements about waste reduction and recycling practices within the school community.
- A recycling bin with a recycling sign was placed next to each garbage bin in classrooms, offices, cafeteria, and other areas of the school.
- The fifth-grade leadership class was trained by a King County Green Schools Program representative to monitor cafeteria recycling stations.
- The school started to collect food scraps and other compostable materials for transport to a regional composting facility.
- In the cafeteria, the school used durable trays and unwrapped utensils, straws, and napkins.
- For a few weeks at the end of the school year, the school participated in a pilot Food Share/Donation Program with assistance from King County Green Schools Program and City of Kirkland. In a share bin in the cafeteria, students placed unwanted, unopened packaged foods such as milk cartons, yogurts, and crackers from the school lunch program for other students to take. Leftover items from the share bins plus unwanted whole fruits with edible skins such as apples were picked up by a nonprofit to be given to community members experiencing hunger.