



Arthur Jacobsen Elementary School

School District: Auburn

School Location: Auburn

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: January 2012

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2012

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

Level Three of the Green School Program: Achieved in May 2017

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Arthur Jacobsen maintained a 61 percent recycling rate as a result of school-wide waste reduction strategies and recycling in classrooms and offices as well as collection of compostable materials such as food scraps.
- The school reduced the size of its outdoor garbage dumpster, thus decreasing the cost of garbage disposal.
- The school eliminated the use of disposable trays and utensils and switched to durable trays and utensils at mealtimes.
- A group of 25 Green Team students completed a waste composition analysis by sorting lunch garbage to identify what items should be recycled and composted.
- The Green Team made presentations about the new recycling and composting program to all classrooms throughout the school.
- With assistance from its district resource conservation manger, the school initiated milk carton recycling and food scrap collection at breakfast and lunch. In 2012-2013, the school began to collect classroom paper towels to add to other compostable materials collected by the school and transported to the regional composting facility.
- Green Team students monitored breakfast and lunch recycling stations for the first month of the program.
- New signs were posted near waste sorting stations. The signs included actual examples of recyclable materials to help students sort properly.



- The fifth-grade Green Team students trained third- and fourth-grade volunteers as well as fellow fifth-grade volunteers so that the school would have recycling monitors on an ongoing basis.
- The school PTA collected cell phones to be recycled.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- Energy conservation tips were posted in the school newsletter.
- Students were assigned responsibilities for turning off computers at the end of each school day.
- To their list of regular student jobs, teachers added classroom computer shut down, closing blinds, and turning off lights after school.
- The Green Team posted laminated reminders to turn off lights when not needed.
- The school librarian periodically shared reminders with students and staff to use energy efficient modes for smart boards and projectors.
- Occupancy sensors were installed as part of the district energy efficient lighting upgrades.

Water Conservation and Pollution Prevention (Level Three)

- Water conservation and pollution prevention tips were shared via morning announcements.
- Students conducted a water conservation outreach campaign. Green Team students promoted the campaign through announcements.
- Students signed pledges to conserve water.
- The Green Team engaged in “drip patrol” to report leaking faucets, running or leaking toilets, standing water, etc. so that repairs could be made.

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

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