



## **Bellevue Children's Academy**

**School district:** Private

**School location:** Bellevue

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:** In September 2017

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:** Achieved in February 2018

**Level Two of the Green Schools Program:** Achieved in January 2019

**Level Three of the Green Schools Program:** Achieved in January 2020

**Sustaining Green School 2019-20:** Achieved in June 2020

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

- The school has maintained a recycling rate of 66 percent.
- At the beginning of the 2018-19 school year, all students participated in a school-wide Going Green Together assembly provided by King County.
- Students and staff members learned about waste reduction and recycling practices via the weekly e-bulletin.
- Green Team students created and shared a video encouraging students to only use one paper towel when drying their hands.
- Kindergarteners participated in a conservation unit where they learned about conservation practices and the environment.
- Throughout the school, near recycling bins, the Green Team created and posted signs listing what can and can't be recycled.
- The staff Green Team partnered with the after-school student Comet Club to promote correct sorting of recyclable and compostable materials.
- In its cafeteria, the school replaced all Styrofoam plates with compostable plates.



## **Energy Conservation (Level Two)**

- Fourth-grade classes completed an energy unit where they learned about energy conservation practices.
- Kindergartners calculated their carbon footprints and created footprint diagrams highlighting where energy can be conserved.
- Students pledged to conserve energy by signing on the school's Energy Pledge Wall.
- Students each day were assigned the classroom job of turning off lights in empty rooms.
- To conserve energy, doors and windows were kept closed while the heating/cooling system was on.

## **Water Conservation and Pollution Prevention (Level Three)**

- Students pledged to conserve water by signing on the school's Water Pledge Wall.
- First and second-grade classrooms learned about dams during a hydro-energy unit.
- The Green Team created water conservation signs which were posted next to all school faucets to remind students to turn off the water when not in use.

## **Sustaining Green School recognition**

The school has been recognized as a Sustaining Green School for sustaining and building on its Level One waste reduction and recycling practices, Level Two energy conservation practices, and Level Three water conservation strategies. How the school built on its Level One through Three practices is described below.

## **Sustaining Green School 2019-2020**

- During weekly teacher meetings, teachers received updates on waste reduction and recycling, and shared the conservation action conducted in each class.
- Starting August 2019, a monthly Green Schools update included actions students had taken at school and ways families could go green at home. The Green Updates featured students for their actions at school and at home.



- In September 2019, a Docu-Sign program was added to eliminate paper contracts and documents.
- Each class watched the TED talk [Shake & Fold](#) on how to only use one paper towel when drying one's hands. Students practiced in classrooms and also during an assembly. The practice of Shake and Fold also was promoted in restrooms.
- Fourth-grade students completed a unit on the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and small student groups created inventions to help solve the problem. Students then made presentations on their inventions to all teachers during distance learning in spring 2020.
- In April 2020, students carried over classroom jobs such as light monitors and conservationists into their home spaces, and taught their family members about energy and water conservation.