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## Survey Results

Our electronic survey of Oregon Green Schools Coordinators resulted in some helpful information. Ninety five percent of the respondents were teachers and 77% teach at elementary schools. Respondents said that newsletters were the tool they most used, and many did not know that OGSA has several spreadsheets available to make waste and energy audit analyses faster and easier.

By far the greatest obstacle to attending Summit was time, followed by distance and transportation. Several stated that they lacked time generally to work on Green Teams, as the workload for teachers increased. More than half the respondents said that a Summit held closer to their area would make it

## Green School News September 2012

**Dear Cathy,**

Welcome back! This should be an exciting year for Oregon Green Schools, with a new website coming soon, two YouTube videos, and a spring Summit to look forward to. The videos can be viewed at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEs027mwscQ&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLqh43o9k1U&feature=youtu.be>

Please let us know when you have news for OGSA!

### School Spotlight: Gladstone High School

Our newest Premier Green School is Gladstone High School! (That's them in the photo above.) Gladstone High School was recently recognized as a Green Ribbon recipient by the United States Department of Education, one of a small number of such schools across the nation. Additionally, they were given a Pillar Award by the Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative for their work supporting healthy, safe students.

Gladstone High School's program is powered by motivated and talented students, staff and administrators. Through their dedicated efforts, they brought the entire school community "on

more likely that they'd attend.

Happily 70% said they could often find what they needed on the website. And it was good to see 65% reported they always got the support they needed from their regional coordinators! Way to go, coordinators!

Some suggestions for improving and expanding our program include a platform for schools sharing information, more support for Premier status attempts, more examples of what schools are achieving, more ways to motivate adult participation, and more resources for schools, such as a lending library and school assemblies.

Thanks to all who participated. We hope that you will like the new YouTube videos that can be used to explain our program, and that you can participate in next year's Summit! Please feel free to continue to send suggestions and questions to:  
mail@oregongreenschools.org!

board", including the school and district administrators, school board members and community members.

They have helped other schools in the district establish programs of their own. Due in part to their efforts, sustainability is a key tenet of the school district's approach. This shows in efforts to develop sustainability curriculum in their schools (including engineering courses on renewable energy and classes on environmental leadership), in sustainability policies passed on district and school levels and in the renovation of Gladstone High School to be LEED certified. Gladstone schools have installed over 300 kW of solar arrays on the rooftops. All of these grassroots efforts were spurred by students involved with Oregon Green Schools over the past few years.

Gladstone High School students have also greatly reduced waste and increased recycling, established a food waste composting system, created a school garden and a rainwater harvesting system to water the garden, participated in green building on campus, instituted a "No Idling Policy" and much more. Recently, the Green School Club succeeded in banning the sale of disposable plastic water bottles. Now they provide affordable reusable water bottles for students and make refilling water bottles simple with water bottle filling stations. Students have worked with kitchen staff recently to eliminate paper plates for lunch service and to bring in more farm fresh, local fruits and vegetables, as well as serving food from their very own campus garden. Congratulations, Gladstone High!

## School Resources

### Apply for a PLT GreenWorks! Grant

Have an idea for an environmental service-learning project for your students? Need funds to implement it? [PLT GreenWorks!](#) grants of up to \$3,000 are available. Deadline to apply is September 30.

### Green Thumb Challenge Grant

GEF and Gardener's Supply Company have teamed up to support established youth garden projects nationwide. They are calling on schools and youth groups to submit chronicles of their garden projects to win a \$5,000 prize. [Click here](#) for more information.

### KAB Webinar: Recycle-Bowl Webinar - Focus on Education

Tues, Sept 18, 1:30pm-2:30pm PDT. FREE  
Join Keep America Beautiful (KAB) for a webinar that will describe Recycle-Bowl, the competition in which participants track and report how much material (cans, bottles, and paper) they collect during four weeks in the fall. [Register here](#)

### Houseplants for Schools

Costa Farms of Florida will send you some 4-inch houseplants for National Indoor Plant Week (September 16-22). What they would like in return are photos of students interacting with the plants. Contact [mmarti@costafarms.com](mailto:mmarti@costafarms.com) if your school is interested.

### How to Be An Agent of Change in Your Circle of Influence

A no-cost, six-session sustainable leadership course. Locations: downtown Portland and Forest Grove. This class covers the theory, practice, agent working within a chosen

circle of influence. Advance registration is required. Check the website for more information. [www.earthleaders.org](http://www.earthleaders.org). Contact Emily Klavins at 503-227-2315 or [emily@earthleaders.org](mailto:emily@earthleaders.org)

## Meet the Oregon Green School Board

Each month we will feature a new board member and eventually we will also begin featuring regional coordinators.



### Emily Phillips

My name is Emily Phillips and I'm new to the Oregon Green Schools Association Board. I've been the Recycling Coordinator at Allied Waste/Republic Services since April of this year. My responsibilities include community outreach and education regarding waste reduction, recycling and sustainability, as well as my role as a Regional Coordinator for Oregon Green Schools.

I've been involved in lots of OGSA projects, including the Oregon Green Schools Summit, developing two videos as Regional Coordinators' tools and working with schools in the Albany/Corvallis/Lebanon area to become certified Oregon Green Schools.

Before joining the Allied Waste/Republic family, I worked in higher education administration. I earned my Bachelor of Science from Oregon State University in Public Health, specifically Health Promotion and Education, with an emphasis in Community Health.

Working with schools to become Oregon Green Schools has been a great experience thus far and I look forward to my Board membership and working with more schools in the future.

*Oregon Green Schools is a nonprofit organization that was formed in 1997. Oregon Green Schools is dedicated to helping Oregon Schools set up and maintain effective, permanent waste reduction and resource efficiency programs that improve school environments and communities, and recognizing schools for their efforts and achievements.*

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