Green Schools News
April 2013

Dear Jeanette,

This spring sees some changes to our OGS board. Many thanks to Heath Keirstead, Anne Schuster and John Matthews, who contributed much to the administration of our organization! Heath will still be co-chair through the end of the school year. It's been wonderful working with you!

We welcome new board members Jackie Wilson, Jeannie Ramsey, Heidi Henry and Elisabeth Start. OGS members will have a chance to get to know them better as we profile them in this newsletter.

As always, we welcome any feedback you have that will help the board achieve the Oregon Green Schools mission and provide support to our member schools.

Email us at: mail@oregongreenschools.org.

School Spotlight : Hollydale Elementary

Hollydale Elementary School's students (pictured above), staff and community take pride in their strong resource conservation program. They recently renewed their Premier status. The school commun daily in order to reduce the waste of items in their building.

The school boasts about their Recycling Plan which includes every child in the school, Kindergarten students are responsible for picking up paper scraps in their classrooms, on the school grounds, 2nd graders have the job of cleaning up the paper towel scraps
Conduct an energy audit using the Oregon Green Schools form and/or ask the Energy Trust or PGE to conduct an audit.

Put up prompts like stickers to remind people to turn off lights and computers.

Install motion sensors in seldomly used rooms

Install LED exit signs.

Set thermostats to maximize energy efficiency.

Install light sensors or work with staff to take advantage of natural daylight and only use the necessary amount of lighting.

De-lamp lights that are not needed.

3rd grade students participate in Watt Watchers in which they "ticket" classrooms who anyone in the class, 4th graders are "Waste Busters," 5th grade students are in charge and their Hub Classroom is responsible for taking out the blue recycle bins each week. The staff, and parents involved in their important work.

The entire school community enjoys the Nature Habitat which includes a pond, raised garden beds, a rain cistern. The area is used as a living lab, and 4th and 5th grade students are Leaders. All classes are encouraged to use the habitat area to learn about nature and co-in and read a book or do some writing.

The school's environmental influence reaches far beyond the school grounds. Each year whole-heartedly in Earth Day! They are proud to have all 430 of their students participate activities each year. Classes work in the Nature Habitat, clean the grounds, participate in activities such as paper making and "recyclable robot" creations, and plant planters for children invites parents to support them in these endeavors and they show up in droves each year in educational assemblies during the week of Earth Day.

Hollydale continues to be very proud of its role within the district for having a well-rounded and strong resource conservation program. The administration, staff, and students are constantly aware of the reduction, energy conservation, and environmental issues. It has made their students see the importance of resources and educated them in how they can impact their future environment. The Resource Conservation Committee has set high standards for students, staff, and school community. They have risen to the challenge!

School Resources

2013-14 SOLAR 4R SCHOOLS ACTIVITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Bonneville Environmental Foundation’s Solar 4R Schools program is requesting proposals from teachers who are interested in receiving grant funding and materials to participate in the development of new activities for K-12 classrooms.

Summer Grant Opportunity For Teachers

- Participate in a collaborative process with local teachers and Solar 4R Schools staff
- Receive $5,000 in grant funding for development time
  - And up to $500 in materials for testing
  - And up to $3,000 in materials for classroom implementation during the 2013-14 school year

Contact Emily Barrett at ebarrett@b-e-f.org or 503-553-3950
Or visit the website at www.solar4rschools.org

Student Climate & Conservation Congress

The Green Schools Alliance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Conservation Training Center invite students entering 9-12th grade, faculty & school staff to apply - or nominate a candidate - to attend our nation’s premier environmental leadership program:
Student Climate & Conservation Congress (SC3)
June 23rd to 29th, 2013

Click here for application and nomination forms, and for more details.
Two Portland Metro Area Events

1) a free training opportunity for folks interested in being Nature Club leaders: This is a collaborating effort between 4-H, the Oregon Zoo, and US Fish and Wildlife Service. Community and school-based clubs who will encounter the Natural World right in their backyards or school yards (perfect for schools with Habitat Sites). The training will take place April 13, 2013 from 9am-12pm. Here is the link with more information:

http://www.4hwildlifestewards.org/NatureClubs.htm

2) a School Garden Tour, which focuses on schools in a couple different school districts. We will be touring four different schools' "green spaces," and providing a variety of resources for schools who are looking for a green space on their campus or in adding to their established green space. Here is the link for more information:

http://www.4hwildlifestewards.org/Oregon%20Programs/Trainings%20and%20Workshop:

H.E.A.R.T. Portland

H.E.A.R.T. Portland is a non-profit education organization that offers no-cost programming on environmental, social justice, and animal welfare topics as well as a service learning unit to K-12 schools and community organizations. You can learn more at: http://teachhumane.org/heart/


Meet the Oregon Green School Regional Coordinators

We are introducing our regional coordinators.

Sue Owens

Tillamook County Region

Sue Owens is a native of Tillamook County and has been employed part time as the Education and Outreach Specialist since early 2012. Her hobbies include hiking, camping, and of course, grandchildren. Her personal goals are to hike the entire Pacific Crest Trail in the spring of 2013. Working part time, Sue spends the majority of her time working with local elementary schools to develop or enhance recycling programs. She hopes to develop a Master Recycler Program in the near future. Sue's comments about her role in Solid Waste, "During my outdoor experiences, I have developed a deeper love and respect for nature. I really want to be more effective in raising awareness and protecting what we have for future generations."

Oregon Green Schools is a nonprofit organization that was formed in 1997. Oregon Green Schools is dedicated to help 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.