

McKenzie Environmental Awareness Committee Procedures

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Adding Environmental Awareness Programs to Enrichment (All Year)

- EA programs that coincide with the curriculum were presented to the K-4th teachers:
 - o Kindergarten: SWANCC Taking Care of Our Earth was selected
 - o 4th grade: SCARCE Watershed Model and Climate Cycle Assembly were selected

Bulletin Board in the Cafeteria (south wall)

35" wide x 61" high



Greening First Day Coffee (August)

- Liaise with the chair of the event to ensure the proper items are being bought to green this event.
 - o Ensure the Sign-up Genius, if applicable, coincides with the greening efforts.
- Ask parents to bring their own coffee cups instead of using the ones from Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, etc which cannot be recycled;
- Use reusable table clothes;
- If plates will be used (they haven't the past several years), make sure to buy the Chinet brand as they are 100% paper and can be composted;
- Use spoons from the cafeteria or bring your own instead of getting straws from Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, etc; make sure the chair knows this so she asks DD, Starbucks not to pack them;
- Creamer should be bought in either a plastic or gabled top jug so that the container can be recycled (little one-size creamers cannot be recycled);
- Treats should be brought in reusable containers, if possible;
- Compost food, napkins, plates, and recycle plastic, glass, etc (recycling and composting totes behind the school where the garbage bins are).
- Communicate greening efforts ahead of time via the Monitor, FB, word of mouth, etc.

Greening Teacher Luncheon (August)

- Liaise with the chair of the event to ensure the proper items are being bought to green this event.
 - o Ensure the Sign-up Genius, if applicable, coincides with the greening efforts.
- Instead of water bottles, the reusable water cups and water jugs in the cafeteria should be used;
 - o Contact Lisa Winter if any issues with the kitchen staff in using these items: winterl@wilmette39.org
- Use the silverware available in the cafeteria;
 - o Contact Lisa Winter if any issues with the kitchen staff in using these items: winterl@wilmette39.org
- Use reusable table clothes for all tables;
- Buy the Chinet paper plates as they are 100% paper and can be composted;
- Decorations are not needed;
- Compost food, napkins, plates (should be made from 100% paper), and recycle plastic, glass, etc using the bins that are already in the cafeteria.
- Communicate greening efforts ahead of time via the Monitor, FB, word of mouth, etc.

Shoe Drive (September)

- In 2016, the EA and Sharing Committees collaborated to run a shoe drive.
- Setup collection box provided by the ShoeBox program in the lobby
- Advertised via the Monitor and McK Facebook site.
- Wearable shoes that fit pre-K thru 5th graders were donated to Carmen-Buckner;
- All other wearable shoes were sent to the ShoeBox program via the World Wear Project which paid money per pound
- Unwearable shoes were dropped at North Face to be recycled via the Clothes the Loop project.
- ~500 total shoes were collected
- Note, I would not recommend the ShoeBox program due to the shipping of boxes both ways.

Greening Ice Cream Social (September)

- In 2016, the crafts table was significantly reduced leaving only face painting
- In 2017; the crafts table was entirely eliminated, with no negative feedback as there was still the ice cream DJ and playground for the kids to enjoy.
- The water jug and reusable water cups should be used instead of water bottles or disposable cups
 - o Contact Lisa Winter if any issues with the kitchen staff in using these items: winterl@wilmette39.org
- Work with ice cream vendor or PTA to see if compostable or recyclable cups can be used
 - o [Webstaurant](#) or Amazon for BPI or ASTM 6400 certified compostable

Environmental Awareness Week (October)

- In 2017, a mini lesson plan was created and Mrs. Filipi asked each teacher to share with their class.



Food Waste
Reduction Lesson.doc

- International Bike/Walk to School should be organized (insert map)



walkingbus .png

- In 2016, this flyer was used to communicate the various events to take place for the week:



McKenzie Green
Committee EA Poster

- Wear Plastic Bag Monster to bring awareness to disposable plastic bags:
 - Contact Beth Drucker for costume: druckerbeth@gmail.com
 - They are created by using our resources (millions of barrels of crude oil, water, coal, while emitting pollution);
 - Even more resources are used to transport the bags from factory to store (oil to make the fuel for the trucks, trees to make the cardboard boxes to hold the plastic bags, etc);
 - End up in our oceans where they kill sea creatures who get strangled in them while also mistake them for food which works its way up the food chain for human consumption;
 - End up in our landfills where it takes 400-1000 years to biodegrade, leeching toxins into the ground and inevitably into our water.
 - Instead, bring reusable containers
 - Reuse bags for things like chips and cookies
 - Take them home to be recycled at Jewel, Target or Marianos with other thin plastic as they can NOT be placed in our recycling totes.
 - Remind parents to use reusable bags for ALL shopping trips - not just groceries.

Greening Fall Frenzy (October)

- Cafeteria:
 - o Ensure that the water jugs, reusable water cups, racks and liquid dump bucket are made available ahead of the event. Have the water in cups ready to be grabbed at the end of the food line, prior to check-out, or wherever is suitable. Someone will need to man this to continue to pour water.

- Setup a 3-bin waste station:
 - Recycling bins from the cafeteria
 - Juice boxes, Gatorades, soda cans, etc.
 - Compost bin
 - Contact Erlene Howard (erlene@collectiveresource.us) at Collective Resource (used in 2016 and 2017) for the compost bins/bags. The bin is for the food waste, plates (make sure the chair buys Chinet brand 100% paper) napkins, etc, but also ask for at least 7 compostable bags for all the pizza boxes.
 - Alternatively, the school's compost bin and bags can be used, but coordination with Oshana to store the bags after the event in the shed until pick-up day will be needed.
- If needed, bags handed out to the kids for the collection of items should be paper (not plastic) to be recycled;
- In 2016, the plastic trinkets used as prizes were significantly reduced with no new ones being reordered.
- In 2017, plastic trinkets were not handed out.
- In 2018, ensure plastic trinkets are not purchased, eliminate the glow sticks/bracelets for Freeze Dance in the auditorium, etc.

Holiday Light Drive

- Setup collection box in the lobby;
- Advertise via the Monitor and Mck FB sites

Details:

- The Village of Wilmette, in partnership with Elgin Recycling and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), will be accepting holiday lights (any color or length) for recycling from Monday, November 21, 2016 through Friday, January 27, 2017.
- Holiday lights can be dropped off at the Wilmette Public Works Facility, located at 711 Laramie Avenue. The recycling boxes will be located in the visitor's parking lot, accessible 24-hours a day. (This is an FYI for us and to be advertised when we kick this off)
- All colors and lengths are accepted
- Questions: pubworks@wilmette.com

Greening Parent Party

- parentparty@mckenziepta.com
- 2017 was at the Kenilworth Club
 - Advertizing done electronically via Monitor and FB;
 - Decorations: used vases, pinecones, candles were used for high-top tables;
 - Cloth linens used for high-tops;
 - Finger food, no need for plates;
 - Drinks: glasses for wine, and beer bottles to be recycled by Kenilworth Club;
 - Excess food to be taken home by organizers at the end of the night;

Greening Variety Show (January-March)

- Costumes can be created from what is in our closets and from past shows. Use the FB pages to solicit old costumes to be reused.
- Saturday rehearsals:
 - Ask everyone to bring goods in reusable containers, if homemade item.

- Composting - bring brown grocery bags to collect composting and dump it in the compost tote in the back of school next to the shed (it is labelled).
- Ask the custodial staff to setup bin for recycling.
- There will be very little garbage so bring a trash bag and bin from home to capture this as the ones at school are huge and the whole bag will end up being thrown away for very little trash.
- Coffee – ask those who bring coffee not to get the plastic straws and only bring the sugar that is needed as Donkin Donuts, Starbucks, etc will usually provide this in excess.
- Encourage people to bring their reusable coffee cups and water bottles.

Earth Week Activities

- Do a planting activity on the blacktop after school on the half day (Thu);
- Walk/bike to school: have students hold up signs to promote this during pick-up. Have students count the # of cars to see if there is a decrease day over day;
- Contact librarian to create area to display earth friendly books:



- Wear green or blue one of the days;
- Put out the No Idling signs (one in front, one in back). Contact Beth Drucker for signs: druckerbeth@gmail.com

Outdoor Ed

- Send an email to the principal have her/him remind the bus company to not to idle while waiting to depart. In the past, they have idled in front of the school for up to 45 minutes.

Greening Field Day (June)

- [Compostable cups](#) for water were used from Amazon (Eco Product Green Stripe)
- The school's compost bins were made available on the blacktop for the collection of the cups and apple cores.
- Kids were encouraged to bring reusable water bottles.

Greening Fourth Grade Farewell Party

- Give-aways were eliminated.
- Decorations were decreased.
- The school's compost bin was used to capture food, paper plates (make sure the chair uses Chinet brand 100% paper), etc.
- The school's recycling bin was used.

Greening Last Day Popsicle/Lemonade Farewell

- [Compostable water cups](#) from Amazon for were used (Eco Product Green Stripe)
- Recommendation is to eliminate lemonade and just offer popsicles.
- Popsicle sticks can be composted.

Landscaping Company used by D39

- <http://www.scottbyron.com/>

Village Forester

John Kempainen, CA #MI-3899A

Village Forester

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