



GREEN AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS

KGHS Update

Fall 2012

Glasgow Green Team Drives Energy Efficiency, Solid Waste Reduction



Glasgow Middle students sort discarded paper for reuse and recycling.

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The Green Team at Glasgow Middle School in Glasgow, Ky., has taken the phrase “reduce, reuse, recycle” literally. The team, made up of sixth through eighth graders, is working diligently to decrease energy consumption and solid waste in their school and community.

Last year, students worked on the Energy Category in KGHS and Green Team Leader Leslie Brauer helped them apply for a grant through the Kentucky chapter of the [National Energy Education Development Project \(KY NEED\)](#) for a vending machine miser. With the aid of KY NEED staff, the students conducted a plug load study both before and after the device was installed to calculate their energy savings. The students have since added two more vending misers, for a total of three units. The student-led project is saving the school approximately 5,534 kilowatt hours and \$630 per year.

The team also includes energy investigators that conduct random

checks of classrooms to monitor energy use. They then educate students and faculty on easy ways to conserve energy.

While KY NEED provided materials and guest speakers for the energy project, “KGHS has given us a format to follow that helps students achieve their goals, and also helps them identify the major stakeholders in their community,” said Brauer.

To reduce materials headed for the landfill, the Green Team worked on the Solid Waste Category, and began a recycling program in partnership with the City of Glasgow. Students are responsible for sorting the school’s paper, cardboard, cans, magazines and newspapers.

Not satisfied with merely recycling, students took things a step further by diverting materials from the recycling bins that could be reused. Gently used paper collected from bins is used in math class for practice calculations. Magazines are

collected to be reused in various student projects at the school. The students are proud that they found a way to use these paper materials twice before they are recycled.



Paul Blick of KY NEED helps students calculate how much energy can be saved by a vending machine miser.

The team has worked to reduce solid waste even further by teaming up with local, state and national philanthropic organizations. The students collect aluminum pull tabs for the

(Continued on next page)

All photos courtesy of Glasgow Middle School Teacher Leslie Brauer.

Glasgow Middle School (Continued)

Louisville Ronald McDonald House Charities, the proceeds of which benefit families with sick children. Eyeglasses are collected for the Lions Club so that they can be donated to those in need of prescription eyewear. Students also work with the Nike Grind program to collect old athletic shoes that will be used to create new athletic equipment, instead of taking up space in a landfill.

By participating in KGHS and working on the energy and solid waste projects,

“The students were exposed to and explored many areas of science, technology and sustainability,” said Brauer.

This year, the student team will continue its existing projects and choose a new KGHS category. “This is a student driven program and I can’t wait to see what they propose for the coming year!” said Brauer.



Glasgow Middle students display a sign for a Nike shoe recycling campaign.

Companies Offer “Green” Fundraising Opportunities

As students and teachers return to school this fall, it is time to start thinking about how to fund all of the wonderful projects KGHS teams have planned. “Green” fundraising may be the answer! While many schools and clubs use traditional fundraising items that include candy and baked goods, wrapping paper, and novelty teas or coffee, several companies offer fundraising focused on “green” products.

KGHS teams are encouraged to participate in green fundraising as it introduces products to people who might not otherwise purchase them. It also helps provide a market for items that are often made of eco-friendly and recycled content. Below are three companies that offer green fundraising opportunities for schools, but teams are encouraged to explore other companies that will fit their school community needs.

Bee Authentic

www.beeauthentic.com

Bee Authentic began as a father teaching his sons about business by helping them sell hand-rolled beeswax candles. Today, the company offers a wide variety of items, including organic clothing, candles, coffee, honey, pet care products, and body care products. Bee Authentic strives to choose products that have the least possible impact on the environment. It uses local suppliers to reduce emissions, and its products are natural or organic. The company supports sustainable and responsible farming practices through its product offerings. Participants receive 40 percent of the money collected during their



REAL. GOOD. STUFF.
BEEAUTHENTIC.COM

Bee Authentic has pledged that 5 percent of all revenue the company receives from Kentucky schools will be donated to support KGHS.

fundraising efforts.

Last year Bee Authentic helped schools fundraise in 12 states, achieving record results over previous fundraisers from other companies. Success came from both the number of students participating and overall sales. Bee Authentic’s newest featured product is a reusable and customizable 16 oz. double-walled, insulated drink tumbler with matching lid. The tumblers are made in America and come with a lifetime replacement guarantee.

Greenraising: Earth Friendly Fundraising

www.greenraising.com

Greenraising was started by parents of elementary school children who wanted a fundraising option that benefitted the

environment. The company offers a wide variety of traditional items such as gift wrap, coffees, and candy. Additionally, the company offers items that help families be more “green.” For example, the shower timer is a waterproof, shatterproof digital timer that helps children and parents monitor how long they take to shower. The timer can even be programmed to beep when it is time to get out. Schools get to keep 30-40% of all money raised, and the company features fundraising drives through its website.

Schools4Recycling

www.schools4recycling.com

Schools4Recycling offers schools both fundraising and electronic waste reduction opportunities. By collecting cell phones and smart phones through community-wide recycling campaigns, school teams can earn fifty cents to \$200 per device.

The company has a zero-landfill policy and is committed to encouraging teachers to educate students about recycling. The company maintains a [teacher resource library](#) of K-8, hands-on activities, projects and lessons that teachers can use to educate students about the importance of “reducing, reusing, recycling and rethinking.”

These companies are only a small selection of environmentally friendly fundraising opportunities. Many more opportunities exist that could help fund your next KGHS project!

Easier Project Documentation for Teachers and Students

In 2011, teachers were asked to use an online submission system to document team projects. After much feedback and planning, the KGHS Committee and program coordinator decided to close the online system and move forward with an Adobe forms submission solution. The submission blackout date, which began in May, will end in September.

All project documentation (formerly SMART forms and reports) will be submitted using a single Project Form (in

Adobe format). A draft version of the [Project Form](#) is available for review here. Team leaders are encouraged to provide feedback on the new form to the [KGHS coordinator](#).

The form includes both project proposal and report sections and should be submitted via email twice: once after the team has filled out the proposal sections, and then a second time after the project is complete and the report section has also been filled out.

Inventories, which are provided in Microsoft Word format, should be submitted via email to the KGHS coordinator. Eventually, all inventories will be converted to an Adobe form.

A new School Checklist is also available to school teams. The checklist was developed to help teams keep track of their progress in the KGHS program. The [School Checklist](#) is available here.

Announcements & Events

Upcoming Conferences

Have questions about KGHS or KEEC? Stop by our booth or sessions at the following conferences this fall and next spring.

Kentucky Association for Environmental Education
Sept. 14 - 15, 2012
Jamestown, KY
Exhibitor Booth

North American Association for Environmental Education
Oct. 9 - 13, 2012
Oakland, CA
Poster Presentation

National Science Teachers Association, KSTA Regional Conference
Oct. 18 - 20, 2012
Exhibitor Booth
Louisville, KY

National Green Schools Conference
Feb. 22 - 24, 2013
West Palm Beach, FL

Hybrid School Bus Workshops for K-12 Educators

The Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition and the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project have partnered to provide two area teacher workshops. Each event will provide teachers with engaging and exciting energy curriculum for students in today's classrooms. The workshop times and locations are listed below:

- Sept. 18, 2012 - Hampton Inn, Pikeville, KY
- Sept. 20, 2012 - Carroll Knically Conference Center, Bowling Green, KY

For more information about these workshops, contact KY NEED Director Karen Reagor at kreagor@need.org.

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools: Green Strides Webinar Series

The Green Strides Webinar Series is designed to help administrators and teachers move toward excellence in the three pillars of the Green Ribbon Schools Program. Below are dates, times and topics for upcoming

webinars. Webinars are free and open to all. For more information about Green Ribbon Schools and the webinar series, [click here](#).

- Sept. 5, 2012, 2-3 PM: School Buildings and Community Building (EPA)
- Sept. 12, 2012, 2-3 p.m. Strategic Collaboration for Effective Asthma Management in Schools (EPA)
- Sept. 19, 2012, 2-3 p.m. The Air Quality School Flag Program (EPA)
- Sept. 26, 2012, 2-3 p.m. Sun, UV and You: The SunWise Program (EPA)
- Oct. 3, 2012, 2-3 p.m. Environmental Education for Everyone: 'K through Grey' Resources (EPA)
- Oct. 10, 2012, 3-4 p.m. The School Day Just Got Healthier (USDA)

Thank You, Technology Conservation Group!



The Kentucky Environmental Education Council would like to thank the Technology Conservation Group (TCG) for its **Gold Level Sponsorship**. TCG has sponsored the KGHS program and summit for three consecutive years.

TCG offers educational seminars on electronic recycling and hosts field trips for schools in the central Kentucky area.

The company helps the environment through conservation of metals, plastics and other non-renewable resources.



www.greenschools.ky.gov

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KGHS is a joint program of the Kentucky Department of Education and the [Kentucky Environmental Education Council](#).

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