



GREEN AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS

KGHS Update

Summer 2011

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KGHS is the recipient of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

KGHS Sets Program Records For 2011

Interest in KGHS has grown exponentially in 2011, with a 196 percent increase in enrollment (See Figure 1). The program also reached another record when it presented 90 awards to 87 schools at the end of the 2011 school year.

The increase in enrollment and awards can be largely attributed to the availability of small grants for schools for energy efficiency projects, and an increase in support for participating teachers and students. The grants and additional support have been made possible by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds distributed by the [Kentucky Department of Energy Development and Independence \(DEDI\)](#).

As of June 1, 2011, KGHS has disbursed \$20,235 in grant funds to 31 schools in 17 counties. Students and teachers at these schools have used the funds to

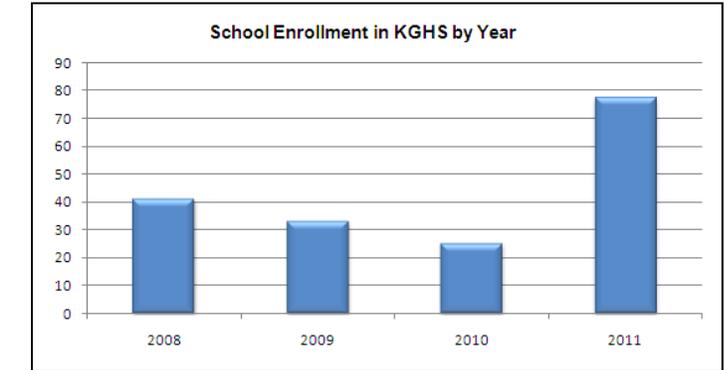


Figure 1: School enrollment in the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program nearly doubled during the 2010-2011 school year.

implement 38 energy-saving improvement projects at their schools. Along the way, students developed math, writing and speaking skills to find data and compose written answers to the questions they explored.

ARRA and DEDI funding has also provided schools, teachers and students with energy-education support. This support has come in the form of district energy managers hired by the

Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) and energy education programming provided by organizations such as the [Kentucky National Energy Education Development Project \(KY NEED\)](#). This support, combined with the grants and programming provided by KGHS, have created a perfect opportunity for schools to address energy efficiency and for students to take a leadership role in supplementing school districts' overall sustainability.

Students Attend Youth Summit in Frankfort



Secretary Joseph U. Meyer addresses Summit attendees.

More than 170 students and teachers representing 30 schools attended the Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools—Kentucky NEED Youth Summit and Awards Luncheon in Frankfort on May 18. Of those 30 schools, 25 represented the KGHS program.

The event is held each year to recognize students and teachers for the improvement projects they have completed at their schools. Students from both KGHS and the KY National Energy Education

Development Project (NEED) presented displays of their work to their peers, state government representatives and other attendees.

First Lady Jane Beshear addressed the event attendees via video message and the keynote speaker was Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary Joseph U. Meyer. "In its fourth successful year, the Kentucky Green & Healthy **(Continued on next page)**

Continued: Students Attend Summit



An Old Mill Elementary student presents work to KY Department of Energy Development and Independence staff.



Students participate in Summit and Awards Luncheon activities.

Schools program enrollment has grown to over 200 schools and it continues to build momentum. It's exciting to see students and faculty from elementary through high school learn about and improve their own health and the sustainability of their environment," said Meyer.

Most of the schools in attendance also received awards for their work. For the second consecutive year, Fayette County's Henry Clay High School received the highest level of award given when it was designated as a Model Kentucky Green & Healthy School.

Wellington Elementary in Fayette County received the New Kentucky Green & Healthy School flag for implementing energy efficient and sustainable design features when the school was constructed.

Jessie Clark Middle School and Montessori Middle School of Kentucky, both in Fayette County, received Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools flags for completing nine projects. Notre Dame Academy (Jefferson County), Old Mill Elementary (Bullitt County) and Tichenor Middle School (Kenton County) were awarded School in Progress plaques for completing three projects.

Another 19 schools received certificates for joining KGHS and completing initial student team work.

The Summit and Awards Luncheon is held every year in Frankfort. Currently, the KGHS program holds the event in partnership with the Kentucky NEED Project because several schools participate in both programs.

KGHS Announces 2011 School Statuses

Each year in May, KGHS Coordinator Merin Roseman calculates the status of each school participating in the program based on the number of improvement projects students have implemented at their school.

"This year, we have presented a record number of new awards to schools for their work they have accomplished. I am proud that so many students and teachers are making efforts to improve the way their schools handle energy efficiency, water conservation, solid waste management, and other sustainability issues" said Roseman.

Since 2007, two schools have reached the Model Kentucky Green & Healthy School status, the highest award in the program. Four schools have reached the Kentucky Green & Healthy School status for completing improvement projects for each of the nine KGHS categories.

Three schools have completed at least six projects, putting them in the School Under Development status. The School In Progress status, which is awarded for completing at least three projects, now includes 19 schools.

There are now three New Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools. This award is presented to schools that meet energy efficiency and sustainable design criteria during construction.

This year, KGHS presented the first District-Wide Participation award to the Morgan County School District. All six public schools in Morgan County have joined the KGHS program.

For school status listings, see page 3. School status listings can also be viewed on the [KGHS website](#).

(Continued on next page)

Continued: School Status Announcements

New Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools

Martha Layne Collins High
(Shelby County)

Twenhofel Middle
(Kenton County)

Wellington Elementary
(Fayette County);
pictured right.



Schools in Progress

Calloway County Middle

Cane Run Elementary
(Jefferson County)

East Carter Middle
(Carter County)

Fairdale High
(Jefferson County)

Grant County Middle

Heath High
(McCracken County)

Kit Carson Elementary
(Madison County)

Liberty Elementary
(Fayette County)

Livingston County Middle

Louisville Male High
(Jefferson County)

Maurice Bowling Middle
(Owen County)

Model Laboratory School
(Madison County)

North Pointe Elementary
(Boone County)

Northern Elementary
(Pendleton County)



Notre Dame Academy
(Jefferson County);
pictured above.

Old Mill Elementary
(Bullitt County)

Phillip A. Sharp Middle
(Pendleton County)

Picadome Elementary
(Fayette County)

Model Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools

Henry Clay High
(Fayette County);
pictured left.

Wingo Elementary
(Graves County)



Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools

Jessie Clark Middle
(Fayette County);
pictured left.

Montessori Middle
School of Kentucky
(Fayette County);
pictured lower left

North Middle
(Hardin County)

West Hardin Middle
(Hardin County)



Tichenor Middle
(Kenton County);
pictured above.

Schools Under Development

Allen County Scottsville High
(Allen County)

Fairview High (Boyd County)

John F. Kennedy Montessori (Jefferson County)

Candidate Schools

For a complete list of schools enrolled in the program, including the 166 Candidate Schools, please visit the [KGHS School Status page](#).

District-Wide Participation

The Morgan County School District is the first district to reach 100 percent school enrollment in the KGHS program. All six public schools in the district are Candidate Schools as of 2011.

Announcements & Events

School-User System Update

The online school-user system is expected to go live in August. Teacher contacts will be emailed instructions about how to use the new system to make submissions to the KGHS program. Paper or emailed submissions will no longer be accepted unless they are part of a grant application. If you have questions about the new system, contact the [KGHS coordinator](#).

Energy Exploration Kits

KGHS will soon have Energy Exploration Kits available for loan (free of charge) to teachers and students who are working on the KGHS Energy Inventory and energy improvement projects. The kits will include items such as Kill-A-Watt meters, hygrometers, thermometers, and various kinds of light bulbs. Teachers/schools are responsible for return shipping costs. Teachers interested in borrowing a kit should contact the [KGHS coordinator](#).

New KGHS Logo

At the 2011 Summit and Awards Luncheon, KGHS unveiled a new program logo. The new logo (pictured below) reflects the inquiry-education and student

leadership elements of the KGHS program.

Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (KAEE) Awards and Board Nominations

Each year, KAEE presents three awards (individual, program, and organization) for excellence in environmental education and elects a new board of directors. KAEE is accepting award recipient and board member nominations until July 1, 2011. Award presentations and board member elections will take place at the 2011 KAEE Conference in Louisville, Ky. For more information, [click here](#).



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Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools (KGHS) is a service learning and student-centered program that empowers students and staff to move their school toward becoming safer, healthier and more environmentally sustainable. This inquiry-based program uses the entire school grounds as a learning laboratory for students. All grade levels of all existing schools (and even schools in the process of being built) are invited to join KGHS! To participate, [click here](#).

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

[Click here](#) to sign up for this seasonal newsletter.

Would you like to see your school featured in the KGHS Update? Contact the KGHS coordinator by [clicking here](#).