Green Schools Committee

Annual Report

2020-2021

2020-21 Highlights

- Elnora Lewis from High Recycle Club shared that they are continuing to share videos about how to recycle properly

- Bayview Teacher Stu Branoff shared how students celebrated Earth Day 2021 with a zero waste lunch, weeding, picking up trash, and learning about the new bioswales and rain garden

- Santa Cruz City Schools Transportation has contracted for a second electric bus

- Youth for Climate Justice held a large webinar about reducing plastic waste

2020-21 Highlights

- Youth for Climate Change has been hanging posters around town promoting climate action and "Zero by 2030"

- Amy Hedrick-Farr from SCCS Food Services shared how they are trying to limit unnecessary waste, such as no condiments or plastic utensils

- Amy Hedrick-Farr stated that her team have completed over 80 hours of Professional Development including environmentally friendly practices for employees

- The City of Santa Cruz has had a greater focus on food waste reduction

Recommendations to the Board of Education

- Continue elementary grade Watershed Field trip and consider "mandatory"
- Encourage students to use green transportation and change the culture around the use of eco-friendly transportation
- Update Environmental Science Textbook
- Invite Curriculum Directors or Ed Services to review development of Climate Action Curriculum
- Designate teacher/Climate Action Coordinator be hired to take on and develop Climate Actions and Climate Curriculum

Recommendations to the Board of Education

- Participate as Green School Committee members, school board and interested students and teachers in the City's Climate Action Plan engagement June, 2021 through June 2022. Opt in to the City's project email list to be notified of those engagement opportunities: www.cityofsantacruz.com/climateactionplan
- Hire a teacher at each site to work with the Climate Action coordinator
- Recommend Climate Change Curriculum for K-12