



eco-cycle

GREEN STAR SCHOOLS® NEWS

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EISENHOWER'S ECO EAGLES SWOOP BACK INTO ACTION

BY MARTI HIRSCH & CARRIE BITZ, PARAEUCATORS

The Eco Eagles Green Team is up and flying again this year at Eisenhower Elementary, while having fun, learning and leading positive green action.

The club is designed to increase student knowledge on a variety of environmental topics. Activities include being waste management leaders and encouraging energy conservation. We also grow fresh produce in the school's Rainbow Garden.

In addition, last school year we helped the school win top honors in Boulder Valley School District's Energy Challenge and first place in Eco-Cycle's Waste-Free Lunch Contest.

The school won Eco-Cycle's contest by providing incentives to each grade level to reduce their lunch trash.



Principal Brady Stroup dressed as a Fairy Baby. Photo courtesy of Carrie Bitz.

Our club assisted each class by weighing their trash at the end of each lunch, keeping track on a table posted in the lunchroom for the entire contest week.

Kindergarten made the least amount of trash. Their prize was to have the principal, Brady Stroup, dress up as a fairy baby.

Another aspect of the Waste-Free Lunch Contest is to reduce the amount of cafeteria durables thrown away. Eisenhower held a drive for families to

donate extra utensils to the school. As first place winner, they cut their trash by 59% and had a 68% surplus of utensils.

Lyons Elementary received second place by cutting their trash by 53% and having a 1% surplus of utensils.

EAGLE CREST ENERGY EAGLES GREEN APPLE DAY OF SERVICE

On September 24th, the U.S. Green Building Council sponsored the Green Apple Day of Service: School House Walk. Five different schools in Boulder County participated.

These schools held building tours that were open to the public, educating about each school's green features.

The self-guided tour at Eagle Crest Elementary led visitors to different stops.

One of these stops was the cafeteria, which featured their lunchroom waste station and the Green Star Schools Zero Waste program.

Each stop offered participants iPads to scan QR codes posted on the walls, which opened student created presentations.

The rest of the tour included other green features and tools such as Kill-A-Watt meters, light motion sensors and motion sensor bathroom faucets.

They also included an [Energy Eagles brochure](#).



Eagle Crest Energy Eagles tour guides at the Green Apple Day of Service: School House Walk. Photo courtesy of Stephanie Potter.

COMPOST NEWS OF THE SEASON!

Eco-Cycle offered the Classroom Worm Bin Project to Green Star Schools again this year. To get on the waitlist for a worm bin next year, contact Michele Melio, michele@ecocycle.org.



Worm Bin Tip for the Fall: Having trouble with fruit flies? Did you know that almost every piece of fresh fruit has fly eggs on it? If you place fresh fruit in your worm bin, be sure to freeze it overnight first and let it thaw. The freezing will kill any of the fruit fly eggs, plus the worms will eat the fruit faster when it's softened from the freezing process.

GREEN STAR SCHOOLS®



Fireside Elementary 5-Year Green Star School Celebration. Left to right: Michele Melio; Robbyn Fernandez, BVSD Executive Director of School Leadership; Christa Keppler, Principal & Deb Gardner, Boulder County Commissioner. Photo courtesy of Ghita Carroll.

GREEN STAR SCHOOL 5 & 10-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Seven schools celebrated five or ten years as a Green Star School this fall.

Five-year schools were: Crest View Elementary, Fireside Elementary and Manhattan Middle School. Ten-year schools were: Mesa, Bear Creek, Foothill and Creekside Elementary Schools.

Fireside Principal Christa Keppler and 1st grade teacher Tom Lajeunesse announced at their assembly their plan to start a new Green Team.

Contact [Michele Melio](#) to organize a Green Team at your school!

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY'S GREEN TEAM HAPPENINGS

BY KELLY SANSEVERINO, 1ST GRADE TEACHER

Students at our school are composting more than ever in both the cafeteria and classrooms. Classroom celebrations will be no excep-

tion this year. Central received a Green Star Schools Grant and was awarded compostable party-ware for our all-school classroom parties!

Student Council members delivered the first round of party-ware to each PreK-5 classroom this Halloween.

Our Green Team has also been working closely with our PTO to promote green choices at all of our community events.

At the annual Firehawk Dash Fundraiser, instead of using a disposable balloon arch, our PTO purchased two inflatable "air dancers" which welcomed students to the start/finish line and can be used at multiple future events.

Our PTO also supported going green at the annual Pie & Ice Cream Social, sending out this message to the school community:

"Help us take a bite out of our waste footprint: bring your own spoon (yes, you heard right SPOON) to the Pie & Ice Cream Social. In an effort to reduce our waste, students are encouraged to bring their favorite spoon from home to use. Think of it as one small bite for planet Earth, and one heaping teaspoon for Central!"

It was a treat to see families arrive with spoons in hand! The PTO also provided compostable spoons, so there were NO spoons in the trash at this year's event!

Other winners of the Green Star Schools Grant were: Gold Hill,

Louisville and Eagle Crest Elementary Schools. These schools purchased durables for their events.

INTRODUCING WASTE-FREE FRIDAYS AT CENTENNIAL MIDDLE

BY JULIE FRIEDER, PARENT



We are so happy to report that the first Waste-Free Friday event was a terrific success!

The Green Team and Student Council set up a table in the cafeteria on Friday, October 21st for both lunches.

We had 100 reusable sandwich bags and 100 pledge cards, which asked students to describe how they will achieve Zero Waste in their lunches on Fridays.

All 100 bags were taken in the first few minutes. It was a huge success!

Julie Frieder, Green Team parent, received a grant from the City of Boulder. She and her son Johnny designed and made the reusable sandwich bags.

SEND SUBMISSIONS & PHOTOS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER TO:

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ECO-CYCLE'S CHILDREN'S USED BOOK PROJECT REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REREAD

Order free books for school fundraisers, classroom libraries or student incentives from Eco-Cycle's Children's Used Book Project. This includes classroom teacher sets on a wide variety of topics.

Contact Amanda Fox, 303-444-6634, ext. 103 or amanda@ecocycle.org.

