

# Go Green Challenge Checklist for Elementary Teachers 2019

## RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND ON DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY WEBSITE

<http://fip.smmusd.org/sustainability.html>

Due December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Please attach documentation for the actions that your class took

### 1. Introduction to Sustainability

- Invite the Sustainability Coordinator to present on sustainability and sustainability within SMMUSD
  - Can be reached at [ccoster@smmusd.org](mailto:ccoster@smmusd.org)
- At least one lesson/presentation about environmental sustainability.
  - Lessons can be found: <http://fip.smmusd.org/sustainability-teacher-resources.html>
  - Teacher can also choose their own.
- Review the Districtwide Plan for Sustainability Goals with students
  - Plan can be found on website: <http://fip.smmusd.org/sustainability.html>

### 2. Energy

- Conduct energy audit using the districts energy audit packet
  - <http://fip.smmusd.org/sustainability-teacher-resources.html>
- Report all energy using devices in classroom/office and how they are used
  - This can be in the form of a list.
- Participate in the energy detectives program
  - Assign an energy detective to monitor energy use in classroom
- Use Energy Shut Down checklist at end of each day
  - Found on website.
- Solar education:
  - At least one educational lesson, video, presentation on solar.
- HVAC thermostat in classroom is set between: 68-75 degrees F.
- All equipment is shut off at end of each day [not in sleep mode]
- Create and post energy saving signage to remind everyone to shut off and shut down
  - Activity/homework/art project where students create energy saving signage and post it either in classroom or other parts of campus.
- Utilize natural light when possible and use less artificial lights.
  - Idea: shut off part of the overhead lights/lift blinds and allow more natural light to enter the window.
- Participate in the districtwide Energy Challenge

- Competition to begin October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- Review the districtwide Energy dashboard and record progress of site: [SMMUSD Energy Dashboard](#)

### 3. Water

- Calculate how much water each student uses per day.
  - Think about the food you eat, the showers you take, and the water you drink to quench your thirst. How much direct water consumption? And indirect consumption?
  - Now, calculate your actual water consumption using GRACE's Water Footprint Calculator <https://www.watercalculator.org/> and find out how much water used directly and virtually each day.
  - Compare and report actual water footprint with guesses.
- Water Conservation education:
  - At least one lesson, workshop, educational video or presentation
- Become certified "Drop Saver"
  - "Drop Saver" certification program.
  - Certification program kit is available on website.
- Utilize the Wise Water Conservation booklet
  - Booklet available for download on website
- Create and post water saving signage in bathrooms/drinking fountains
- Storm Drain to Ocean lesson
  - Available on website
- Identify types of landscape around campus:
  - Is it low water use or high water use?
- Identify what kind of irrigation is used on campus or site. Drip irrigation, sprinklers, reused water?
- Identify if the site uses any water capturing devices [rain barrels, rain gardens, rain chains] on campus

### 4. Waste

- Watch the Story of Stuff <https://storyofstuff.org/>
- Conduct waste audit in your classroom. Identify what is being thrown away.
- Teacher sign up for the Next Generation Science Standard Aligned Curriculum for Plastic Pollution here: <https://www.5gyres.org/educators>
  - Utilize at least one lesson plan from the plastic pollution curriculum.
- Landfill lesson: What is a landfill? What are alternative solutions? What is wrong with landfills?
  - Example lessons are available on website.
- Do you have a classroom waste station? Must have:

- Grey/black bin for Landfill waste [clearly labeled]
- Blue bin for recycling waste [clearly labeled]
- OPTIONAL: if desired or have food in classroom, can have green bin for compost [clearly labeled]

If you need to order these bins, email Lisa in M&O at [lallen@smmusd.org](mailto:lallen@smmusd.org)

- Enforce using scratch paper instead of new paper
  - Have a scratch paper collection area and utilize all of that for educational material before using new paper.
- Proper E-waste disposal in classroom.
  - The district diverts 100% of e-waste from landfill. All E-waste must be picked up separately, E-waste can NOT go in any campus trash/recycling bins. Contact Caroline for a pick-up [ccoster@smmusd.org](mailto:ccoster@smmusd.org)
- Proper battery disposal
  - The district diverts 100% of batteries for landfill. Make sure you dispose of your classroom batteries in the battery collection stations located in front office.
- ALL paper is properly recycled in classroom
- Double-sided printing is utilized and a default setting
- Waste reduction actions:
 

Ex: Encouraging digital reading, note-taking and activities, printing multiple pages per sheet, minimizing paper correspondence with parents
- Practice creative reuse:
  - Ex. Recycled art projects, up-cycle events, donation bins, reuse bin liners
- Reusable water bottles: Encourage bringing own reusable water bottle and not using plastic
 

**Report:** What percentage of the classroom/office uses a reusable water bottle?
- Food waste and organic training for proper sorting in the cafeterias
  - Train students on how to properly sort waste in school cafeteria and eating area. Each elementary school has a waste station.
  - Encourage the students to participate in the Waste Warrior program at lunch to properly sort waste and divert from landfill.
- Lesson on Share Table and Food Recovery:
  - One lesson about the cafeteria Share Tables and the importance of food recovery to take food out of the landfill

## 5. Engagement

- Students conduct at home water and energy audits to share their knowledge at home
  - Provide an at-home water, waste and energy audit for the students to conduct audits at home and share their knowledge
- Student lead sustainability themed focused lesson for the class or preformed a training
  - At least one lesson conducted by students about a certain sustainability topic.

- Teacher encouraged participation in community opportunities/events- photo documentation for credit
  - Check website for opportunities for workshops, trainings, films, etc.
- Teacher to watch an educational film on an environmental topic.
  - Film list is on website

## 6. Wellness

- Nutrition education:
  - At least one lesson, activity, presentation or video on nutrition.
- Plogging event participation:
  - Host, create or join a campus plogging event. Plogging=picking up litter while jogging.
- Campus Beautification project or participation with campus beautification event
- Walk to school:
  - Make or create or share a walking map [also in transportation]
- Garden education:
  - One lesson on gardening or participating in a garden activity in the school garden.
- Mindfulness activities or zen corner:
  - Incorporate mindfulness into the school day at least twice a month. Examples include one-minute quiet time, meditation, relaxation music, etc.

## 7. Transportation

- Encouragement around alternative transportation:
  - Lesson, flyer, presentation or, bulletin about reasons to take alternative form of transportation.
  - Available on website.
- How transportation effects the environment and climate:
  - At least one lesson on transportation and impacts to climate.