



Sustainability Liaison Program Accomplishments 2016-2017



Arlington Public Schools



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Program Overview

- Sustainability Liaison Program piloted in the 2016-2017 school year
- Ten liaisons were selected and earned \$1,096 stipends
- Goals for the liaisons included:
 1. Identifying sustainability-related activities
 2. Collaborating and sharing information activities
 3. Fostering the implementation of projects





Which Schools Had Liaisons

1. **Arlington Career Center**
Erin Hannon
2. **Ashlawn Elementary School**
Dan Redmond
3. **Discovery Elementary School**
Josephine Walker and Kathleen Krupa
4. **Drew Model Elementary School**
Carley Fisher-Maltese
5. **H-B Woodlawn**
Meghan French
6. **Jamestown Elementary School**
Dani Green
7. **Long Branch Elementary School**
Greg D'Addario
8. **McKinley Elementary School**
Meghan Ehrman
9. **Oakridge Elementary School**
Sean Jones
10. **Patrick Henry Elementary School**—
Susan Spranger



Elementary Schools

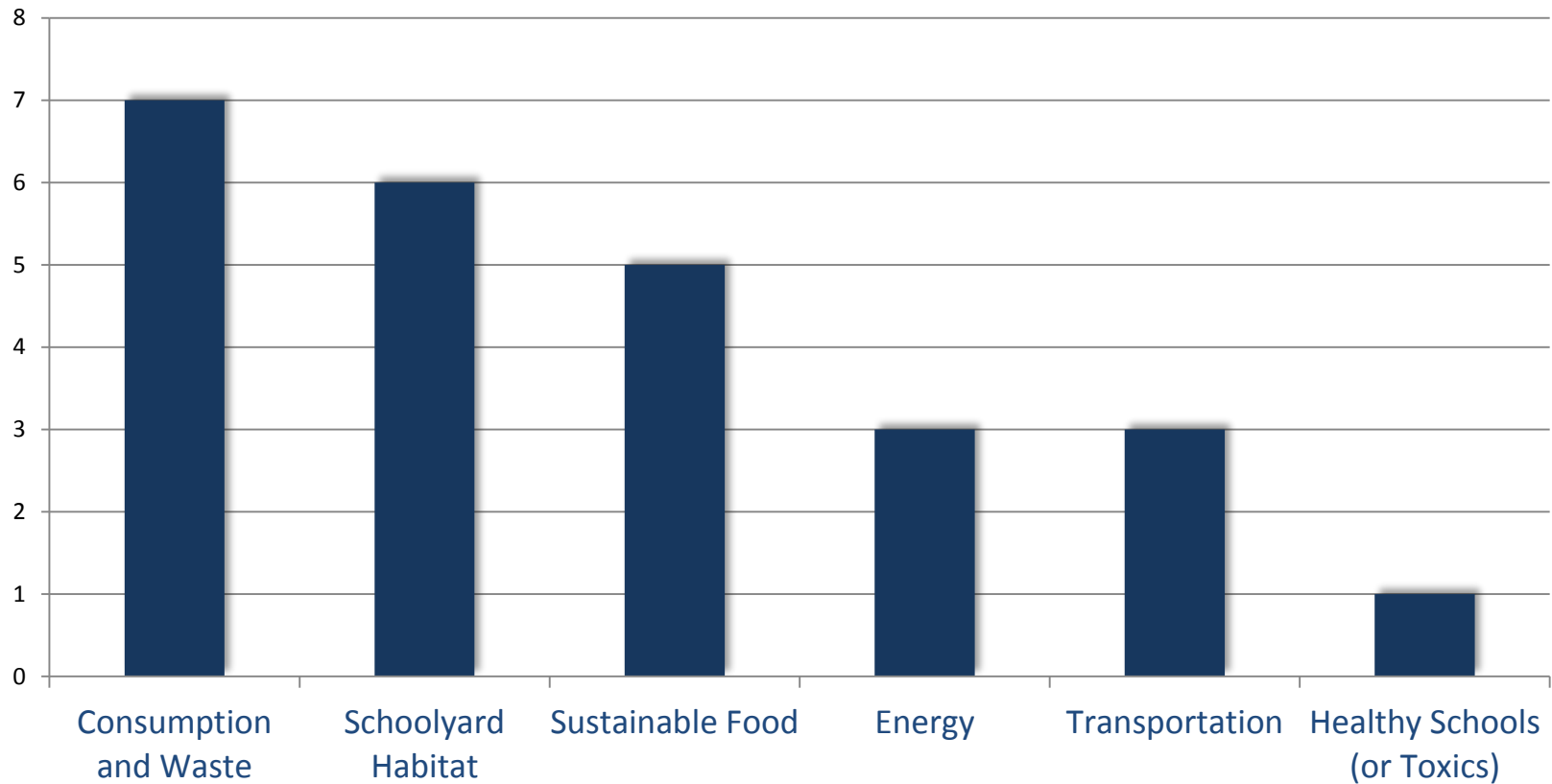


Middle/High Programs



Summary of Project Accomplishments

- 16 projects were undertaken in the ten schools
- Some projects had several sustainability components
- Below are some of the most common themes





Recycling and Waste Reduction Projects

**22,577 Pounds of Waste
Avoided!**



**20,000+ pounds
recycled**



**2537 pounds of
food donated**



**40+ pounds of
food composted**



**500+ people signed pledges to
avoid single-use plastics**



Gardening & Outdoor Learning Projects

- 780 seedlings grown
- 1 greenhouse installed
- 6 garden beds installed
- 2 vermiculture bins operating
- 1 school designated as “Certified Wildlife Habitat” by National Wildlife Federation



Transportation Projects

200+ students signed pledges to walk to school



Tune-ups provided for 18 bicycles



Liaisons helped 20 APS staff get transportation benefits



1 school earned Silver level Bike Friendly Business designation from the League of American Bicyclists



4 Lesson Plans Created and Delivered

**1. Using native animals
(honeybees and squirrels) to
demonstrate connections with the
world around us
(300 students in 12 classes)**

**2. Renewable Energy Demonstration
(198 K-1 Students)**

**3. How Plants Grow
(198 K-1 Students)**





Students Engaged

**2,414 students (and counting)
were engaged through liaison activities!**



Connection to SOLs

Eight out of ten schools linked sustainability liaison projects to Standards of Learning (SOLs)



Sustainability concepts apply to all levels of scientific study (K-12, from physics to biology)

Key Concepts include

- Life cycles of plants and animals
- Sources of energy
- Natural resources
- Environmental changes over time





100% of liaisons implemented projects that support the Whole Child



- Healthy
 - Increased accessibility to fresh produce
 - Supported outdoor activities
- Engaged
 - Promoted involvement in local environment
 - Increased participation in community service
- Life skills
 - Experienced leadership, entrepreneurship
 - Brought home sustainable practices



Appendix: Liaison Summaries



Arlington Public Schools



Accomplishments

- Had people bring in their cars for tune-ups (tire pressure, oil) to improve efficiency (miles per gallon)
- Conducted a waste audit
- Encouraged improved and more frequent recycling by adding improved signage to their bins





Ashlawn Elementary

Liaison: Dan Redmond



Accomplishments

- 15 fourth graders started, grew, and potted-up ~ 700 vegetable seedlings in the hallway
- Students ran a sale of the pepper/tomato seedlings
- 198 students learned about renewable energy and solar power in demonstrations
- Obtained Silver Level, Bike Friendly Business Certification
- Recycled 30 pounds of Crayola markers
- Tuned-up bikes for 6 school staff
- Assisted 20 staff members in applying to transportation benefits program



Accomplishments

- Screened *A Plastic Ocean* Documentary and raised \$260 for the Plastic Ocean Project
- 500+ students and staff pledged to avoid single-use plastics
- Initiated discussions on impact of plastics for all grades
- 2,016 pounds of food was donated to the Arlington Food Assistance Center
- Grounds earned National Wildlife Federation's "Certified Wildlife Habitat Designation"
- Recognized as a 2017 US Department of Education Green Ribbon School Honoree



Drew Elementary

Liaison: Carley Fisher-Maltese



Accomplishments

- Initiated a 4H Junior Master Gardeners After School Club
- It covers the basics of horticulture through art, music, writing, and science activities
- The Club currently has 15 participants from 3rd – 5th grades and over 20 students on the wait list
- Developing a Colonial Garden to complement VA history studies



H-B Woodlawn

Liaison: Meghan French



Accomplishments

- HB's Environmental Club, with the help of a spin-off club, worked to increase recycling within the school
- Started two worm bins, which break down food waste and convert it into reusable soil. So far they have converted about 10 pounds of waste into soil



Jamestown Elementary

Liaison: Dani Green



Accomplishments

- Created several lessons incorporating multi-modal approaches and Jamestown's outdoor learning spaces and reached 300 students in 12 classes
- Lessons encompass the whole child and focus on the main categories of sustainability: community, diversity, interdependence, and cycles
- Did 18 social media posts to promote the lessons and how students interacted with them



Long Branch Elementary

Liaison: Greg D'Addario



Accomplishments

- Started a Recycling Rangers Program that engaged 23 5th graders in helping to lead the school's recycling
- Estimate that the Rangers recycled between 16,800 – 22,400 pounds of recycling this year
- The Rangers trained 31 total 4th graders to replace them next year



McKinley Elementary

Liaison: Meghan Ehrman



Accomplishments

- McKinley donates unopened/unused food products to Arlington Food Assistance Center
- Students ran the sorting and storing of food on site, and all 700 students participated
- Parents and students worked together and reduced waste at McKinley by 521 pounds



Accomplishments

- Several gardens were created, including an African Keyhole garden, which combines gardening and composting
- The Y.E.S. club at Oakridge received and now maintains a compost bin (shown right)
- The number of recycling bins increased in the school, and both staff and students aided in the collection of the bins
- A final project inspired by LEED guidelines set by the EPA involves rolling planters which slightly lower emissions on the blacktop during the day
- Projects were maintained by all 625 students, reaching each grade level





Accomplishments

- After studying the negative effects of air pollution on the local watershed, 5th graders initiated a recognition poster and monthly lottery to encourage biking/walking/carpooling to school
- Students placed their name on the poster for choosing a greener way to get to school
- Students also involved their teachers by creating a “Walk To Work Week” which involved a similar poster and lottery award
- 2-3 gallons of compost were also collected each week

