

Kansas Green Schools Update #2 (2011-12)

The goal of the Kansas Green Schools Program is to provide opportunities for preK-12 schools to increase awareness and understanding of the complex environmental interrelationships that impact public health and the environment, and promote environmental stewardship practices that relate to air quality, climate change, solid waste reduction and recycling, water management, and outdoor wildlife habitat.

Earth Day Every Day

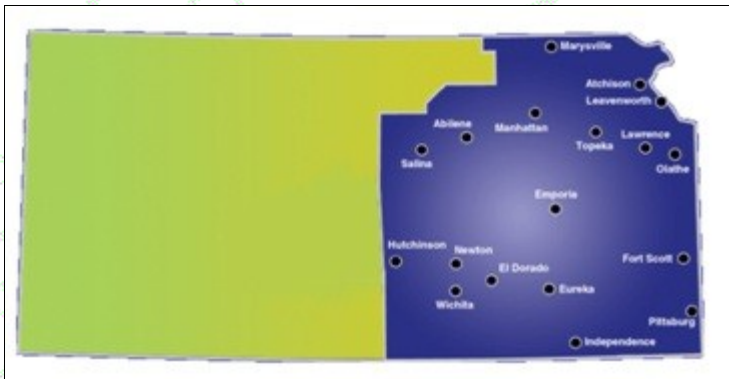
Westar Energy Kansas Green School's School Bus Diesel Retrofit Grants: Request for Proposals

What is a School Bus Diesel Retrofit?

A School Bus Diesel Retrofit is a modification to an existing diesel school bus that helps to reduce the air pollution from that bus.

Why Retrofit Diesel School Buses?

Burning diesel in older buses can cause air pollution problems, including elevated particulate matter pollution and reduced overall environmental air quality in our communities. Particulate matter is associated with elevated health risks that especially impact children.



School districts MUST be in the Westar Energy Service Territory and a public school district.

Any public school district within the service area of Westar Energy may apply for funding and will be evaluated based on the attached proposal scoring rubric. It is important to note that while any school within the Westar Energy Service area may apply, priority for funding includes areas that are high priorities for air quality improvements in Kansas. These areas include the following counties: Butler, Douglas, Harvey, Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Riley, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Sumner and Wyandotte. Further priority will be given to school districts that serve higher populations of economically disadvantaged youth, as represented by those receiving free and reduced lunch.

Available Funding:

Up to \$500,000 in funding has been made available from Westar Energy for Kansas Green Schools Diesel Retrofit projects. Schools and school districts may apply for grants of \$20,000 to \$250,000.

How to Apply:

To apply for a Westar Energy Kansas Green School's Diesel Bus Retrofit grant, complete the online application found at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Westar>

Schools selected for funding will be required to submit additional funding information prior to final funding approval. See the "Detailed Grant Requirements and Guidelines" available for download below for more information.

Applications need to be submitted no later than January 16, 2012 to be considered.

2011 Kansas Environmental Education Conference *Flying Into the Future with EE* November 4-5, 2011 Great Bend, Kansas Pre-Conference Workshop November 3, 2011



Juan Martinez, National Natural Leaders Network Coordinator for the Children & Nature Network and 2011 National Geographic Emerging Explorer, will open the conference.

Scholarships Available for the Kansas Environmental Education Conference

Scholarships for formal educators, administrators, and staff at Kansas schools registered on the Kansas Green Schools Network are available for the conference (while funds last). Recipients must attend BOTH the pre-conference workshop on Thursday, 3 November and the conference on Friday and Saturday, 4 and 5 November. For more details about the conference, workshop, and scholarships, go to <http://www.kacee.org/kansas-environmental-education-conference>.



HAVE NEWS OR PHOTOS TO SHARE?
 Send them to Shari L. Wilson at
swilson@kacee.org

Kansas Green Schools Program is sponsored by Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Corporation Commission/State Energy Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture and Staples Foundation for Learning



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KACEE does not necessarily recommend or endorse items and programs on the below items

Apply for a GreenSchools! Grant - Extended Application Deadline October 28, 2011

The deadline to apply for the GreenSchools! Grant has been extended to October 28, 2011. The grants are provided through funding from the U.S. Forest Service. Registered PLT GreenSchools! can apply for grants up to \$1,000 and are designed to support environmental action projects your students want to implement at your school. Visit www.greenworks.org for an application form.

Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grants Program

Deadline Date December 31, 2011



The School Garden Grant Program is a collaboration between Whole Kids Foundation, Whole Foods Market and FoodCorps. Thanks to the generosity of Whole Foods Market customers, Whole Kids Foundation is able to provide grants of \$2,000 to support school garden projects.

Garden projects may be at any stage of development; planning, construction or operation. In selecting grant recipients, priority will be given to both limited-resource communities and to projects that demonstrate strong buy-in from stakeholders. There is a limit of one garden grant per school.

2nd Annual Green Schools National Conference



Registration is now open for the 2nd Annual Green Schools National Conference in Denver on February 27-29, 2012. For more information, visit <http://www.greenschoolsnationalconference.org>

FREE WEBINAR

"School Buildings as Green Teaching Tools"

Date/Time: October 19, 2011, 4-5:30pm PST

Location: Online

For more information: <http://www.classroomearth.org/gswwebinars>



Description: This October, the National Environmental Education Foundation launches the first of a series of three webinars to help educators around the country learn from experts and peers how to green their schools and curriculum. Participants will interact live with national experts and teachers who are transforming their schools for the 21st Century. The first 100 registered participants that log in and complete the webinar will be eligible for a webinar drawing to receive a complimentary registration to the National Green Schools Conference February 27-29, 2012. All registered participants who log in and complete the webinar will also be eligible for special discounted registration for the National Green Schools Conference. Additional webinars in the Green Schools Educator Series coming in November 2011 and January 2012. Featured topics to include: "Greening the School Yard: Gardens and Habitats" and "Going Green through the Curriculum"

Needing Kansas Schools to Participate

If your school would like to participate in a research study that is looking at implementation of principles contained in the new Green Print, as well as student achievement related to inclusion of environmental education in the classroom, please e-mail Shari Wilson at swilson@kacee.org by **Friday, 7 October**. You will be contacted by a researcher from the University of Colorado-Denver. The research is sponsored by the Green Schools National Network. The September, 2011 Green Print is on the next two pages.

Calendar

- 21-22 October - Dig In to School Gardens! in Lawrence, KS. Visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule> for more information.
- 26-27 October - Dig In to School Gardens! in Sublette, KS. Visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule> for more information.
- 4-5 November - Kansas Environmental Education Conference, Great Bend, KS
Pre-Conference Workshop on 3 November
- 18-19 November - Dig In to School Gardens! in Pratt, KS. Visit <http://www.kacee.org/workshop-schedule> for more information.

For more information, check out our website at www.kansasgreenschools.org or contact **Shari L. Wilson**
Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE)
swilson@kacee.org
913-287-6879



A “GreenPrint” for Becoming a Green and Healthy School

What Is a Green School?

A Green School enhances student health and learning while conserving natural resources and empowering students to develop sustainable behaviors, enabling them to become the stewards of the future.

How do you become a Green School?

Becoming a green school is not a prescribed journey; it is a series of conscious actions that lead to more ecological and sustainable practices. By using this “GreenPrint” as a road map, leaders, teachers and students, can begin to implement core practices immediately. Through long-term commitment to these core practices, schools and school districts work toward implementation of all benchmarks at the highest level.

Core Practice 1: Curriculum that Advances Environmental Literacy and Sustainability

- Environmental literacy and education for sustainability, as defined by local, state, and national standards, is integrated at all grade levels;
- All teachers use inquiry, problem, and project based pedagogy to facilitate learning about global systems and relationships.
- Outdoor experiences and fieldwork support learning about complex systems that connect humans with other humans and all aspects of the natural world.
- Content areas are integrated by using environmental and sustainability topics as the integrating them.
- STEM education is designed to support a sustainable workforce for a green economy.

Core Practice 2: Stewardship and Service Learning

- Real world service learning projects that explore solutions to local, regional, and global problems and issues and teach 21st century skills;
- Stewardship projects that allow the student to take responsibility for their own school grounds.
- Place-based projects and practices that include, but are not limited to, school farms, forests, and gardens.
- All students have the opportunity to participate in land restoration projects, such as native eco-system or brown fields remediation;
- Teacher and leaders provide opportunities for students to make local and global connections.

Core Practice 3: Sustainable Facilities Design and Management

- Green facilities design and construction retrofit for existing buildings as defined by state, regional or national certification programs.
- Management practices operations and maintenance that reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, improve indoor air quality and lighting, decrease waste stream and improve water conservation.
- Zero-waste or reduced-waste cafeterias.
- Use of non-toxic and eco-friendly supplies and materials;
- Facility managers and teacher work together to use buildings, management practices, materials and supplies purchasing to teach about sustainability.

Core Practice 4: Health and Well Being

- Healthy eating programs that utilize locally sourced and whole foods;
- Curriculum and support for physical fitness and healthy lifestyle choices.
- Fitness and recreation program that includes lifetime outdoor activities such as walking, hiking, biking, skiing, and camping.
- Healthy air quality practices and lighting that reduce illness and absenteeism.
- Healthy and thoughtful relationships with others that support character development.

Core Practice 5: Strong Partnerships and Networks

- Long-term partnerships that support systemic change and ecological balance within the school and community
- Develop strong partnerships among groups of diverse cultural heritage to promote the greening of schools in all communities.
- Participation in the development of state and national green school networks.
- Participation in research and evaluation of student learning and best green school practices.
- Collaboration with research based curriculum and assessment models.

GSNN MISSION

The Green Schools National Network (GSNN) advances the national green and healthy schools movement by connecting like-minded and passionate education, non-profit, corporate and public sector individuals and organizations.

GSNN VISION

GSNN is nationally recognized as the premier partner in advancing collaboration to integrate a green and healthy culture in schools to ensure that current and future generation of students are environmentally literate as well as practice and promote sustainability in their community.

GSNN AREAS OF FOCUS

- Education/Professional Development
- Resources and Information
- Networking/Collaboration
- Advocacy/Policy
- Research

ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTING TO THE GREEN SCHOOLS NATIONAL NETWORK GREENPRINT DOCUMENT

Alaska Green Schools Alliance for Climate Education American Federation of Teachers Association of Independent Schools Biological Sciences Curriculum Study BluePlanet Campaign for Environmental Literacy Center for Diversity and the Environment Center for Ecoliteracy Center for Environmental Education Climate Counts Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) Council for Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI) Cloud Institute, The Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education Colorado Department of Energy Colorado League of Charter Schools Colorado Legacy Foundation Denver Public Schools E3 Washington Earth Day Foundation EarthEcho Earth Partnerships for Schools Environmental Charter Schools - California Expeditionary Learning Schools Facing the Future Global Green Green Charter Schools Network Green Education Alliance Green Education Foundation Green My Parents Green Schools Alliance Green Schools Initiative (CA) GREENGUARD Environmental Institute HealthCorps Healthy Schools Campaign High Plains Environmental Center Institute for the Built Environment, Colorado State University	Kansas Assoc. for Conservation & Environmental Education Kokua Hawaii Foundation Lunch Partners MGR Foundation – Green Community Schools Maine Green Schools Michigan Green Schools Mid-America Regional Council Minnesota Department of Education National Association of Elementary School Principals National Association of Independent Schools National Association of School Administrators National Audubon Society National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities National Education Association National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEFUSA) National School Board Association National Wildlife Federation No Child Left Inside North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) Oklahoma Green Schools Oregon Green Schools Pine Jog Environmental Center Place Based Education Evaluation Collaboration Project Learning Tree - Green Schools! SIG Energy Initiative Sizemore Group Sustenance International Sustainable Schools Project Trane – Climate Solutions Center Triangle Energy Solutions U.S. Department of Education U.S. Department of Energy U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. Green Building Council - Colorado Chapter U.S. Green Building Council - Georgia Chapter U.S. Green Building Council – Center for Green Schools U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development Washington Green Schools Will Steger Foundation Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
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May 2011

For additional information contact:

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