

TrashMasters!™  
**SUPER**Recyclers



High School Division  
Queens Honorable  
Mention

Jamaica High School

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION

# 2010 GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

This certificate is awarded with the sincere appreciation and esteem of a grateful Department and City in recognition of your school's efforts to help make New York City shine.



City of New York, Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor  
Department of Sanitation, John J. Doherty, Commissioner  
Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling, Robert Lange, Director

  
John J. Doherty, Commissioner  
June, 2010

Jamaica High School  
167-01 Gothic Drive  
Jamaica, N.Y. 11432  
Walter Acham Principal  
Super Recyclers!!!!

Recycling Team

Captain: Terrence Titus

Co-captain: Tony Williams and Donte Stewart

10 grade Students from The Introduction to Occupations

11 grade students from Earth Science

Teacher –in Charge: Mrs. Jeanne Quarto

The recycling team would like to thank our principal Mr. Walter Acham, Ms. Lynann Forger ,Instructional Support Service Department A.P. the Jamaica High School Custodial Staff, the Jamaica faculty, the Department of Sanitation, the Queens Botanical Garden and the NYC Parks Department for all the support and guidance given to us to begin and make this project a success.

# Jamaica High School Goes Green

## Super Recyclers

### **Commitment Statement**

Jamaica High School is committed to educating everyone connected with the school on the proper way to recycle. With recycling usually left up to the custodians, the Recycling Club and Introduction to Occupations and Earth Science classes decided to make aware to everyone the importance, as well as ease, of recycling.

### **Dispensing and Collecting**

After meeting with a Mr. Jay Castro, the Recycling Coordinator and the Jamaica High School Custodian Forman Mr. Lozado, designated areas were assigned as to where to begin and how. Sticky labels, posters, bookmarks, DVDs and much needed advice were given on how to begin our project. The club first started by taking an inventory of what was and was not being recycled. At first observation, paper was the most abundant material not being properly recycled by faculty and staff as well as students. Thus, cardboard boxes in which copy paper is delivered were taken, labeled with The Dept. of Sanitation green recycling labels and placed in all classrooms, offices and teachers' lounges. The Recycling club students went around speaking to all classes about what to and what not to place in the boxes. Instructional recycling bookmarks were given to all students and teachers in addition to posters for the classrooms.

Blue bins were placed in the teachers' lounges and student cafeteria for proper placement of glass and plastic. Again, posters were placed around these rooms to inform and remind teachers as well as students the importance of recycling.

Although the custodians are responsible for collecting the waste, the Recycling club wanted to show how other students can be involved. The Recycling club, along with the Introduction to Occupations class got together and on a bi-weekly basis would go around themselves from room to room to collect the paper from the boxes and dispose of them in the appropriate bins in the back of the school. The captain of the team took it upon himself on the days I was absent to go around collecting, insuring no overflow. Soon, busy offices would leave messages on my phone stating they needed a pick-up. Recycling was truly taking effect throughout the building.

## **Worm Bins and Composting**

The Intro to Occupations and Earth Science classes had an in-class workshop concerning worm bins and recycling of certain foods sponsored by the Queens Botanical Garden and NYC Dept of Sanitation. Students learned the proper disposal of non-dairy and meatless food waste. A worm bin plus worms were provided for a classroom project. Teachers in the Special Education Department now leave their banana peels and orange rinds in the office freezer to “feed the babies”.

An outside compost was also given to the class by the Queens’s Botanical Garden to be placed by the school’s small yet expanding garden. Again, the Queens Botanical Garden Representatives came here to provide a lesson in proper outside composting. Again, teachers and students are now keeping food wastes to be disposed of for outside composting. Materials generated by outside composting and worm bins are used to fertilize the indoor plants and outdoor garden.

## **Teaching across the Content Area**

In Math class, students weighed a daily amount of recycling paper. They then calculated how much waste is collected for a week and then for the month. Charts and Graphs were created to depict just how much paper is collected. In Earth Science the students have learned how the composted fertilizer is better for the environment than chemical fertilizer. They were taught how underground water and well as surface-runoff water can carry ingredients in the soil to other parts of the land. This can affect human health, so the importance of natural substances in the land is stressed. In our Introduction to Occupations class, so many careers were researched concerning the recycling issues of today. With the emphasis on "going green" in today's work force, many jobs which were not around 10-15 years ago are now popular.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, what began as an idea in the Earth Science class last year has expanded to a team of conscientious students, adapted faculty, integration of curricula and a real awareness now of recycling at Jamaica High School. With Jamaica High School being a huge comprehensive high school it appeared to be almost an impossible task. Yet, when given the tasks and the enthusiasm of the students, in reality recycling just became part of the school day. To be bestowed The Golden Apple and or Golden Shovel would truly be an honor for the students who have strived so hard to get "Jamaica Green and Clean"

## **Step 1**

**Obtain boxes  
for recycling  
placement.  
The boxes in  
which paper is  
delivered is  
the best!**



## **Step 2**

**Adhere green labels and place in classrooms and offices. Have students speak to classes as to proper recycling.**



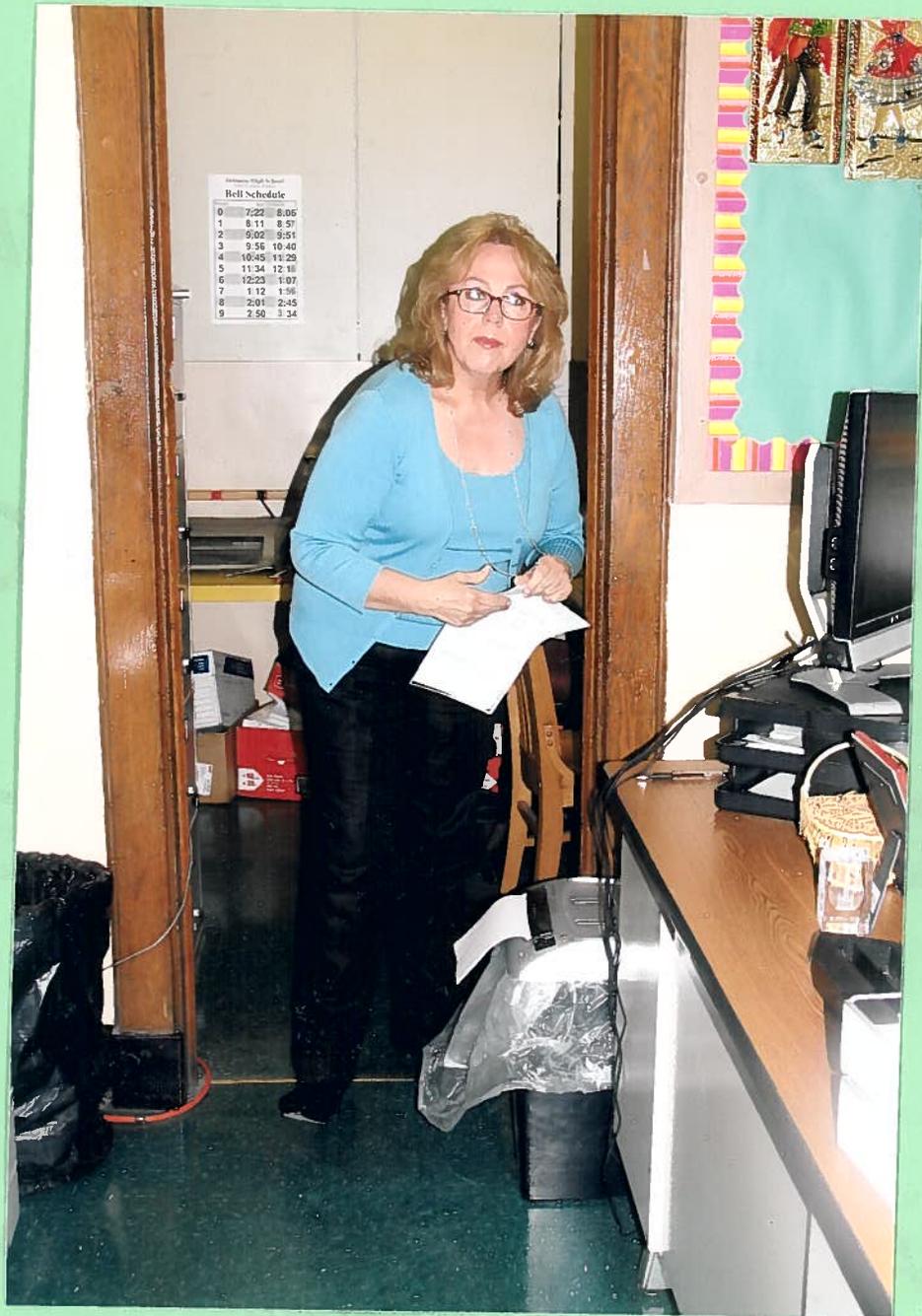






## **Step 3**

**Get  
faculty  
involved!**



Bell Schedule

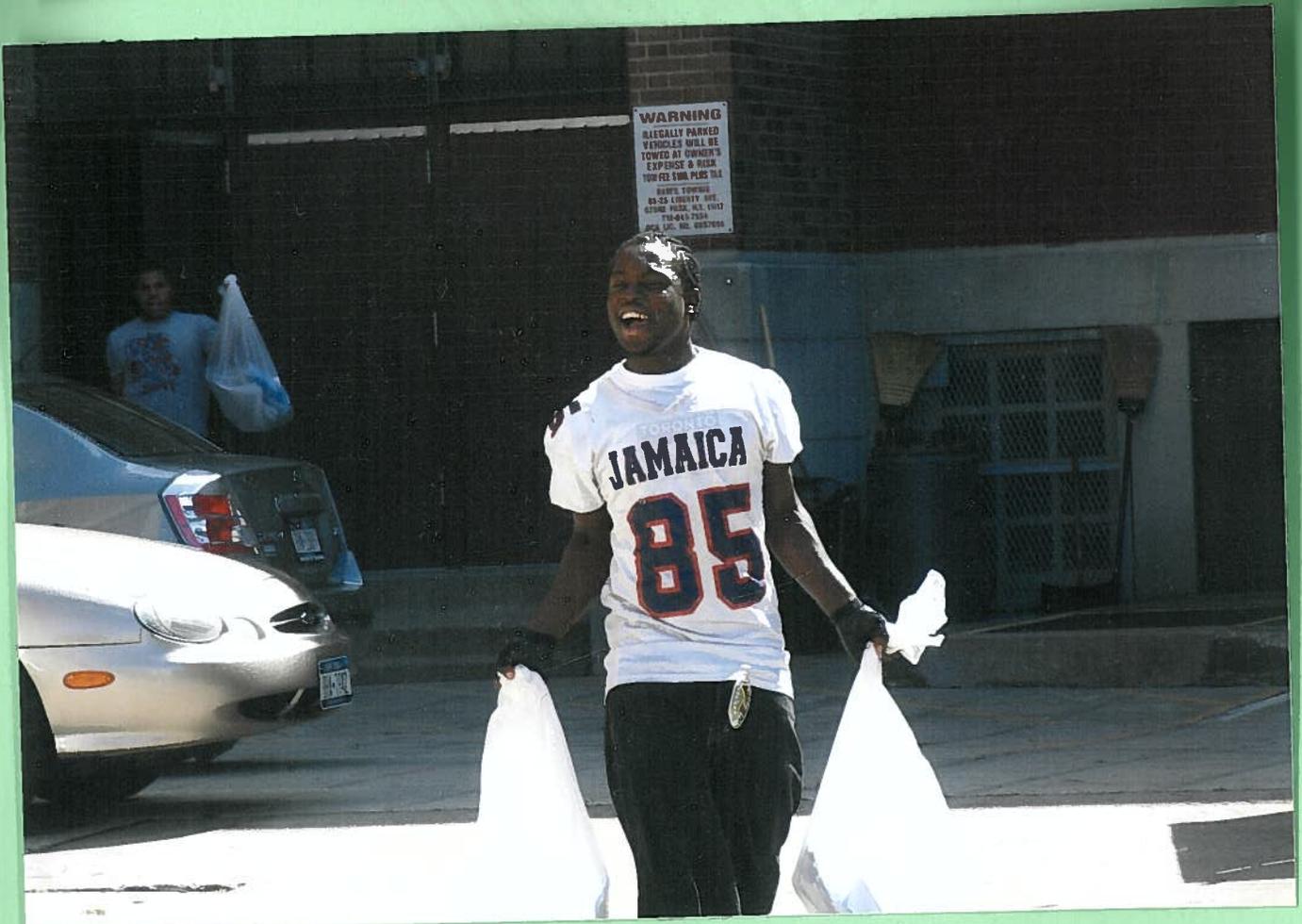
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1	8:11	8:57
2	9:02	9:51
3	9:56	10:40
4	10:45	11:29
5	11:34	12:18
6	12:23	1:07
7	1:12	1:56
8	2:01	2:45
9	2:50	3:34





## **Step 4**

**Collect  
and  
remove**





## **COMPOSTING**

**Step 1 Bring in  
experts from  
the Queen's  
Botanical  
Garden for a  
workshop**



