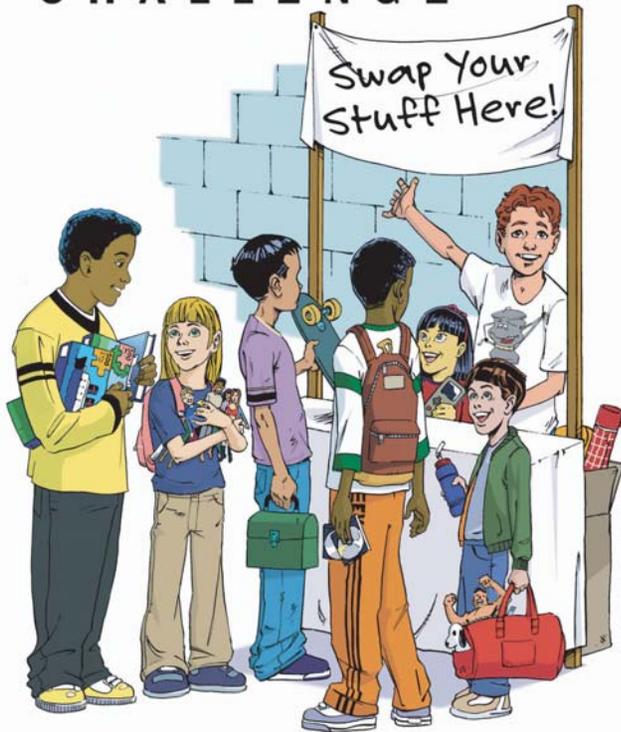


TrashMasters!™
REDUCE & REUSE
CHALLENGE



High School Division
Manhattan Borough
Honorable Mention

Stuyvesant
High School

2013 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
Department of Sanitation
Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling
nyc.gov/wasteless



2013 Golden Apple Awards Contest Entry Judging Info

(This sheet prepared for judges' use by DSNY BWPRR)



ID Info: 13019
School: Stuyvesant High School
Grade Division: HS
Borough: M

Golden Shovel Award contestant
(for borough Master School Composter)

2013 Project Entries received for:

School Population: total # 3300

Core Group: **Total Participating:**

TrashMasters! Super Recyclers

Received:

TrashMasters! Reduce & Reuse Challenge

60

3300

Cafeteria Flip Tap and Stack

Received: 5/7/2013

In fall 2012, Environmental Club students started working at nearby PS89 during their lunch period to help the elementary school kids with their "Flip, Tap, and Stack" program to neatly bag lunch trays. The students were amazed by how much less lunchtime garbage that school threw out than their high school did, even though the elementary school is so much smaller. They wanted to implement the same program in their own cafeteria. The goal was to cut down the number of garbage bags going out to the dump every day, and increase the number of bags of milk cartons getting recycled.

TrashMasters! Team Up to Clean Up

Received:

Prior Year Entries:

04:RR-wd;08:SR-wd,RR-wd,TU-wd;13:RR-hon,SR-note,TU-part

Current Prizes

13:RR-hon,SR-note,TU-par

School Contact Information:

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Address: 345 Chambers St
New York 10282

Contest Coordinator: Marissa Maggio

Block&Lot: 1000160215
DOE Location: M475
DOE Bldg: M477

Principal: Jie Zhang

Sustainability Coord: Marissa Maggio

REQUIRED for Super Recyclers only:

Custodian: FRED ARNEBOLD

Info Confirmed: 5/9/2013

Printed: 6/26/2013

Waste Prevention Project - Cafeteria "Flip, Tap and Stack"

IMPLEMENTATION

- **Why this?** In the fall students of the Environmental Club started working at PS89 during their lunch period to help the elementary school kids with their "Flip, Tap and Stack Program." The students were amazed by how much less garbage they threw out than we did, even if they elementary school is so much smaller than we are. They wanted to implement the same program in our cafeteria. Our goal was to cut down the number of garbage bags going out to the dump every day and increase the number of bags of milk cartons getting recycled.
- **What did you do?** We implemented in the cafeteria the " Flip, Tap and Stack" Program. The students originally sorted their waste into three separate bins: one for terracycling materials, one for milk cartons (after emptying milk into buckets) and one for trash. They then stacked their trays on a table. At the end of each lunch period the trays still went into the trash, as they are Styrofoam they cannot be recycled. We now also have a bin out for plastics due to the new changes to plastic recycling policy here in NYC.
- **Project planning.** The students and I wrote a proposal for the program that was approved by the principal and Assistant Principal of Organization. We wrote a grant from the Parents association to get funding for materials - tables, gloves, purell, wipes, buckets, posters and materials for signs.
- **Student involvement.** Once the plan was approved and the funding was cleared the students met after school and over regents week break to make all of the new signs for the cafeteria, for those around the building and in classrooms. The students created a schedule so that students would be working every lunch period at each of the 2 recycling stations. The students worked with Ms Bernstein, our tech teacher, to design holders for the signs that fit directly into the handles of the garbage cans (holders which we have made for the recycling efforts at PS 89 as well). And the students are policing eachother, making sure everyone is working when they should be and keeping the stations as clean as we can!
- **Promotion.** In addition to all signs in the classrooms and hallways as well as those in the cafeteria, there were daily announcements over the loud speakers for the first 2 weeks of the program. The principal sent an email to the student body to inform them of the new program, which began on the first day of the spring term. Mr. Harvey Blumm, the parent coordinator, included the program in his weekly newsletter to parents for over a month and there were weekly announcements posted to the Stuyvesant web site for the month of February. In addition, the school paper, The Spectator, has published a number of articles on the program (<http://stuyspectator.com/2013/02/10/more-aggressive-recycling-initiative-launched/> and <http://stuyspectator.com/2013/02/22/recycling-is-not-a-chore/>). Finally during the first week of the Spring Term the gym teachers spent their periods going over with the kids what materials went in which bins. That every student in the school heard the speech in that first week helped to make the transition a bit smoother.
- **Collaboration.** Students are still volunteering at PS 89 on some lunch periods as well as working our stations. We had a visit from Baruch College Campus High School to see how we had implemented our program.

PROJECT ANALYSIS

- What worked?** Patience. Once the students saw the program was not going away they got on board. There are no only a few students who still place waste into the wrong bins. Also how we set up the tables and bins needed to change. Putting terracycling before milk buckets and far from trash has increased our terracycling yield and decreased the trash that gets mixed in! And we now know that everyone is more likely to do the right thing when someone is watching!

But most important the program succeed. We decreased the number of garbage bags leaving the school from between 44-55 bags a day down to an average of 17.5 a day and we increased the recycled by 100% (since we were doing none!). The data below were recorded for us by our cafeteria staff!

Cafeteria Recycling- Number of Bags removed each period.

DATE	Period 4 And Breakfast			Period 5			Period 6			Period 7			Period 8		
	Garbage	Milk	Plastic	Garbage	Milk	Plastic	Garbage	Milk	Plastic	Garbage	Milk	Plastic	Garbage	Milk	Plastic
1/31/2013	4	2		3	1		2	1		2	1		2	2	
2/1/2013	3	2		4	2		2	1		3	2		2	3	
2/4/2013	4	2		2	1		2	1		3	2		3	2	
2/5/2013	2	1		3	2		3	2		2	1		4	2	
2/6/2013	3	2		3	1		2	2		3	1		4	2	
2/7/2013	3	1		2	1		3	1		3	1		4	2	
2/8/2013	3	2		3	1		3	1		4	2		4	2	
2/11/2013	5	2		3	2		3	2		3	1		4	2	
2/12/2013	4	2		2	1		3	2		3	1		4	2	
2/13/2013	4	1		5	2		3	2		3	2		5	2	
2/14/2013	3	1		3	2		4	2		3	1		5	2	
2/15/2013	4	1		3	1		3	2		4	2			2	
2/20/2013	3	2		4	2		3	1		4	1		4	2	
2/21/2013	4	2		4	2		5	1		4	2		4	2	
2/22/2013	3	1		3	2		3	2		4	1		5	2	
2/25/2013	4	2		4	2		5	1		5	2		5	2	
2/26/2013	4	2		4	1		4	2		5	2		4	2	
2/17/2013	3	1		5	2		4	2		4	1		5	2	
2/28/2013	3	1		5	2		5	2		4	1		4	2	
3/1/2013	3	1		3	2		4	1		4	1		4	2	
3/4/2013	3	2		3	2		4	1		5	4		4	2	
3/5/2013	3	1		4	1		4	1		4	1		4	2	

3/6/2013	2	1		3	2		4	1		5	1		4	2	
3/1/2013	3	1		4	2		3	2		3	2		4	2	
3/8/2013	3	1		4	1		4	1		4	1		4	2	
3/11/2013	4	2		4	1		4	1		3	1		4	2	
3/12/2013	4	2		4	2		3	1		4	1		5	2	
3/13/2013	4	1		2	2		3	1		3	2		5	2	
3/14/2013	2	1		3	1		3	2		4	1		4	2	
3/15/2013	3	1		3	2		4	1		5	1		4	2	
3/18/2013	2	1		3	1		3	1		4	1		4	2	
3/19/13	2	1		3	2		3	2		2	1		3	2	
3/20/13	3	1		4	2		4	1		4	1		4	2	
3/21/13	2	1		4	1		4	1		4	1		4	2	
3/22/13	3	1		2	2		2	1		4	1		4	2	
4/3/13	4	1		3	1		4	1		4	1		5	2	
4/4/13	4	2		3	1		3	2		4	1		4	2	
4/5/13	5	2		3	1		3	2		2	2		5	2	
4/8/13	4	1		2	2		1	2		2	1		4	2	
4/9/13	4	1		4	1		4	1			1		2	2	
4/10/13	4	1		3	1		3	1		3	1		5	2	
4/11/13	4	1		3	1		3	1		4	1		4	2	
4/12/13	2	1		2	2		3	2		2	1		4	2	
AVG	4.8	1.4		3.4	1.6		3.4	1.5		3.5	1.4		4.0	2.1	

- **What didn't work?** Breakfast without any supervision! But we have high hopes now that cereal containers can be recycled. There also needed to be better communication between cafeteria staff and custodians and us. For the first week the milk cartons were going out with trash and not only on recycling days. When we realized this we devised a plan where trash went into some carts and milk cartons into another. You can see in the photos below.
- **Applicability to other schools.** Any school with faculty willing to give up their lunch periods (I volunteered for Cafeteria duty the first half of the Spring term so I would be in there during one of the busiest lunch periods) and students excited about the program. When you make the kids work the stations for a grade or extra credit they are much less effective and enthusiastic.
- **Measuring success.** Students who are not part of the club will help to clean tables or correct a classmate now. When someone puts something into the wrong can, a number of people take the initiative to correct the error and inform the person of their mistakes. And everyday someone new is asking us when we will begin composting or recycling plastic fruit cups. Luckily one of their requests we can now help with!
- **Future plans.** How would these prize funds be used to further enhance your school recycling program, waste prevention initiatives, or beautification projects?

