

TrashMasters!™
SUPERRecyclers



High School Division
Manhattan Borough
Notable Student Effort

Stuyvesant
High School

2014 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/recycle



2014 Golden Apple Awards Contest Entry Judging Info

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



ID Info: 14015
School: Stuyvesant High School
Grade Division: HS
Borough: M

Golden Shovel Award contestant
(for borough Master School Composter)

2014 Project Entries received for:

School Population: total # 3300

Core Group: **Total Participating:**

TrashMasters! Super Recyclers

45

100

Stuy Goes Green

Received: 5/1/2014

Stuyvesant High School's second year of "Greening Stuy" has made recycling more simple and convenient by expanding hallway recycling to all 10 floors of the building, adding organics collection to their cafeteria, and assigning a schedule for students to collect hallway recycling and record the weights of collected materials. The students in the Environmental Club planned and implemented the school's updated recycling program; volunteering their time to assist with cafeteria disposal, placing signs around the school, checking bins for proper disposal, and posting recycling information on their website www.stuyenviroclub. These efforts have successfully increased student involvement and awareness.

TrashMasters! Reduce & Reuse Challenge

Received:

TrashMasters! Team Up to Clean Up

Received:

Prior Year Entries:

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

Current Prizes

14:SR-note

School Contact Information:

Phone: 212 312-4800 x1071
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: 6/10/2014

Printed: 6/18/2014



SCHOOL INFO

- School Number **M475**
- Official School Name **Stuyvesant High School**
- **345 Chambers Street NY NY 10282**
- Phone # 212-312-4800 , Fax # 212) 587-3874
- Principal: **Jie Zhang extension 1071 jzhang@schools.nyc.gov**
- Contest Coordinator: **Marissa Maggio, Biology Teacher and Sustainability Coordinator**
- School description — Specialized High School .

CONTEST ENTRY INFO

- Manhattan
- High School
- Stuy Goes Green ...
- Our second year of greening Stuy has seen our hallway recycling program grow to all 10 floors of the building and the composting program was added to our cafeteria. We have worked on greater student involvement and are looking forward to adding classroom recycling next year.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- Student Participation: Core Group # 45
- Student Participation: Total #100
- School Population: Total #3300

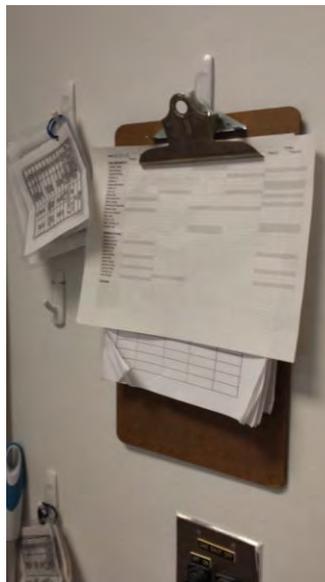
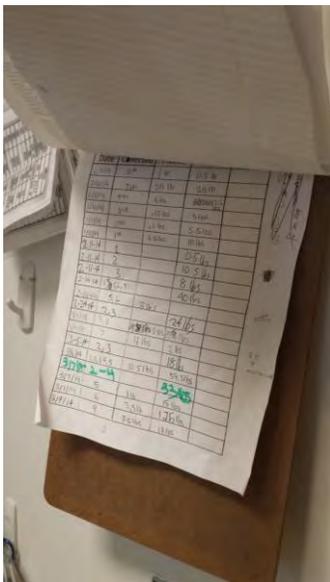
Our program has grown immensely this year and slowly we are changing the culture of the school. We have created a recycling center in the back of one of the classrooms where we have boards to keep track of who is collecting from every floor. We have large bins in which we keep the sorted Terrcycle materials and gloves and bags for all of the programs. This is also where all of the empty ink toners in the school are brought so the students and I can send them out. Whatever toners are not purchased by Tonerbuyer.com are brought to staples for recycling.



DO HALLOWAY PART!!

PAPER RECYCLING

Classrooms	Initials	Hallway	Entrance	HALLWAY 1st FLOOR
1st Fl	VP	1st Floor		YOU
2nd Fl	VP	2nd Floor		CAN
3rd Fl	SR DR	3rd Floor	YL CZ	DO
4th Fl	SL DR	4th Floor	YL CZ	BOTH
5th Fl	VP	5th Floor	YL CZ	DR
6th Fl	SL DR	6th Floor	YL CZ	DO
7th Fl	VP	7th Floor		ONE
8th Fl	VP	8th Floor		ONE
9th Fl	VP	9th Floor		ONE
		10th Floor		ONE
DO LIBRARY		DO ITTING	DO CENTER	DO !!!
DO JESUS!		DO FROM CARE	DO PAND	
DO COLLECT		DO TERRICIE		



To the left here you can see the Clip Board that has the schedule of who is due to come every day to collect hallway recycling and to sort Terrcycle.

Below the attendance sheet is the data tables to record the weights of plastic, paper and trash collected on each floor.

Yet change is slow. Students sort their trash better when Environmental Club members are at the recycling stations during lunch. If no one is looking then students will throw plastic in the paper bin. And due to issues with mice we cannot have Terracycle stations outside the cafeteria and participating teachers classroom. But at a penny a piece we have raised over \$400 this year alone from Terracycle, so we are still collecting a good amount. And the students report that the time it takes to sort hallway recycling has decreased drastically from last year – which means more students are doing the right thing.

I am in talks with the principal and the custodial staff to begin classroom recycling next year. We are looking to get the double carts so the custodians will be easily able to keep garbage and paper separate. I am working with teachers to ensure we buy bins that they feel will work in their classrooms and with the Student Union and Environmental Club to come up with ways to engage the student body to be more proactive about keeping those paper bins clean of all non-paper waste. I am so very proud of the hard work and dedication these kids have shown and am excited to work with them on all of our plans for the future. Thanks you for your time and consideration!

~marissa

All of the following information below was prepared by students of the Environmental Club – Sunny Zhang, Sidney Lok and Luna Owa.

Paper and Cardboard Recycling

Our school paper recycling system is visible and easily accessible. Recycling bins are situated in classrooms, teacher offices, guidance rooms, the programming office, the library, next to the first set of escalators near the second floor student entrance, and in the principal's office. In addition, there are two hallway paper-recycling bins per floor. In the student cafeteria, paper is included in the composting bin. Next to each of these bins are garbage bins to prevent students and faculty from throwing trash in recycling bins.

The bins are always blue, labeled with green DSNY stickers or with bold signs taped above, and either unlined or lined with a clear bag. Large pieces of cardboard are usually kept separate from the bins. All that the students have to do is to be aware of what color bin they throw their trash into, or to read the clearly worded signs above the bins.

Students take care to throw their trash in the right bins.





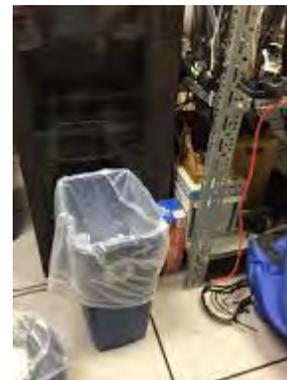
This is one of the paper recycling signs the environmental crew has made to facilitate paper recycling.

Paper and cardboard recycling bins are either unlined or lined with clear plastic bags.



Some of the bins are also shaped so that the opening is a slit, making it even more apparent that the bin is for paper only.

The paper and cardboard recycling bins can be found everywhere around the school.



Recycling Metal, Glass, Plastic & Cartons

The student cafeteria is located on the fifth floor. The system that is implemented in the student cafeteria is very well define and clear. The trash is not indiscriminately thrown into a random bin. There are different sign posts on each of the garbage bins and many posters instructing students how to sort their trash. The process requires very little effort on the student's part and is very simple and convenient. All of the aforementioned items are given one bin to be thrown in. These items will all be sent to a recycling facility afterwards where they will be sorted and recycled.

Caption: In the cafeteria, there is a can relegated solely for any recyclable items.

The metal, glass, plastic and cartons goes into a bin separate from the bins for non-recyclable trash. The liquids in cartons are emptied out into a large plastic bucket, which is placed upon a pedestal near the bin for cartons, plastic, glass, and metal for the student's convenience. Any food is thrown to a composting bin to avoid messing up the recycling bin.

Unfortunately, in the classrooms, there are no bins for metals, plastic, glass, cartons. The reason is that the school does not permit students to bring drinks into the classroom. Thus, it is not allowed for to place bins in the classroom that are specifically designated for soda cans, glass and plastics. Similarly, the gymnasium does not allow drinks other than water.

There is an average of two recycling stations in all 10 floors. There is only one on the 10th, but one is also regulated on a small floor between the first and second.

Caption: This is a hallway station. In the green bin, you can see that there are round slots in the bins designed for bottles, cans, and cartons.

The teachers are also involved in recycling. In each of the teacher's office, there is a bin for plastics, metals, and other recyclable items. The teacher also has an teacher's lounge, a place for teachers to eat their lunch and to relax when they are not teaching. When teachers and school faculties eat their lunch, they are also encouraged to sort out their trash.

Implementation



Before and after: Before the Environmental Club started its efforts in recycling, the hallways only had one huge bin in which everything—both recyclables and trash—got tossed into. In the cafeteria, there were several big garbage bins scattered throughout the area, and students dumped trays, food, water bottles and milk cartons alike into the same bin. Last year, the club fitted floors two, three, and four with hallway waste disposal stations, which had separate bins for paper, metals/plastics, and other trash. This year

we expanded the program to all ten floors of the school building, with two stations on each floor. Signs indicating recyclable objects were ordered from DSNY and placed on and above the respective bins. This year, we have also expanded our Terracycling program (in which we collect chip bags, candy wrappers, drink pouches, toothbrushes, etc. and then ship them out to be up-cycled by the Terracycle company) by including more teacher's in the classroom competitions and adding a Terracycle bin in the cafeteria. The cafeteria waste collection has changed dramatically—the garbage bins dotted throughout the cafeteria have all be gathered at two garbage disposal stations, one in the front and back of the cafeteria. There are now separate bins for compostable food scraps and items, metals/bottles, landfill objects, and Terracylable items. There are also buckets in which students dump out all liquids. Big DSNY signs label all bins, and student volunteers stand by to help out as well.

Project Planning: The objectives of the hallway and cafeteria programs were to raise awareness of waste separation. Last year's smaller program had shown that, given the opportunity, many students do make an effort to recycle. This year, we decided to reach the whole student body by expanding the program to the hallways and cafeteria. We took great care in making sure that the bins were situated in the same general area on each floor, and that all the signs were the same kind, so as to prevent any confusion. By creating a greater presence in the school and facilitating the process as much as possible through signs and student volunteers, we are able to send a message across and attain greater participation from the whole school community.

Student involvement: Students from the Environmental Club were instrumental in the planning and implementation of the program. We determined the location of the bins on each floor, set out the bins, made and hung up the signs, and student volunteers check up on the bins. Club members are required to volunteer at the cafeteria one period per week, making sure that people are separating their trash correctly. In addition teachers and staff assigned to cafeteria duty have helped to ensure students take the time to sort their trash into the appropriate bins. We are also in charge of the Terracycle competition between certain classes, and volunteer after school to count the number of items collected by each class, pack, and ship them out.

Promotion: Signs that indicate recyclable materials are hung up at each hallway station. The signs were also shared and promoted online in student groups. The club bulletin board is packed with information about the club activities, volunteer opportunities, and the recycling programs. The Environmental Club website www.stuyenviroclub.com is also a good source of information. Special Earth stickers with Eco-facts are posted on bulletin boards throughout the school building. School morning announcements also include fun eco-facts during the Tuesday homeroom Announcements. Students from the Environmental Club volunteer weekly in the cafeteria to facilitate other students in their waste separation. During the school Earth Day Fair, there was a Recycle-thon competition, in which faculty and students compete to separate their waste correctly. There were bulletin boards at the fair with information about how trash affects marine animals and habitats. To help



display the importance of recycling –especially plastic – we purchased an educational packet from The 5 Gyres Project, contains materials collected and pictures taken from all 5 Ocean Gyres of the world. The materials are displayed in a case on the 7th floor and were also set up at a table during Earth Day Fair.



The Terracycle program is promoted through competitions. To gain awareness, a grade-wide competition was held at the beginning of the year among 9th grade homerooms, with a pizza party as the reward. Throughout the year, several teachers offer extra credit to the class that collects the most Terracyclable items during the semester.

Collaboration: The neighboring Primary School 89 participates in our Terracycle program by delivering weekly to us items collected by their students. We also have students volunteer at their cafeteria to help the younger kids with their cafeteria waste separation program.

Project Analysis

What worked? One of the most successful aspects of this project was getting students involved. The environmental club spends hours just sorting the terracycling that is collected on a daily basis and making sure that everyone sorts their trash correctly in the cafeteria. Collaboration was also another successful aspect. We have a strong partnership with P.S. 89, which helps both schools to grow into a sustainable environment. The club's outreach has also widened with a more popular website and more announcements, flyers, posters, and memos going to the school. This in turn helps raise awareness for the program.

What didn't work? What didn't work was getting everyone to conform to sorting their trash. Students are too busy and pressured to worry about whether or not their trash is going in the right bin. Consistency was also another problem. Because of the fact that schedules fluctuate and are hard to maintain, sometimes we go for days without sorting the trash and it piles up.

Applicability to other schools. Cooperation is the key to success. Students must thoroughly understand the importance of recycling in order to be able to help your project prosper. Therefore, educational programs should be put in place to teach students about the importance of recycling.

Measuring success. I measure success relatively, so this program would be considered very successful. Stuyvesant High School basically transformed. If you take a look at the "Before and After" section, you will see that the change we brought to the school was huge. The Stuyvesant community is definitely more environmentally-conscious in general now.

Future plans. We plan on using the prize money to further our efforts. We would use it to buy supplies that we need to sort trash (garbage bags, gloves, wipes, etc.), which are recurring expenses. We would also use it for art supplies to create signs for our garbage bins, posters to hang around school, to decorate our outreach bulletin board, etc. We could probably also use it try and implement an extra educational program to educate students about the zero-waste initiative.

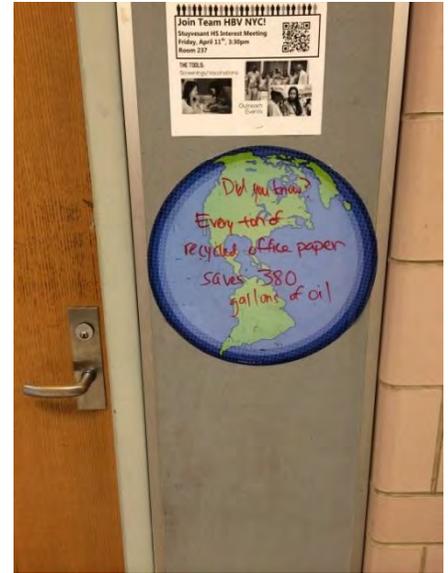
SCHOOL COMPOSTING PROGRAMS

Composting is central in the student cafeteria. We have a food scraps bin set up along with the recycling and landfill bins in the cafeteria. This bin is where students place all their food scraps and soiled papers, contributing to the zero-waste goal.

Pictures:



Environmental Club volunteers after school to help count Terracycling for teacher competitions.



Students participate in the recycle-thon competition during the Earth Day fair.



The Earth stickers have eco-facts on them and are found throughout the school building.

The Earth stickers have eco-



Hallway and cafeteria stations are labeled with clear signs for each bin.



The club bulletin board provides information about the club and other volunteer opportunities.