



EVANSTON/SKOKIE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 65

Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes

D65 Climate Action Community Meeting

May 16, 2023

Agenda



- ❑ Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (Marie, Beth, Sylvia)
- ❑ D65 Sustainability Update (Karen Bireta, Sustainability Coordinator)
- ❑ End of School Classroom and Locker Clean Out (Karen)
- ❑ Positive Impact this School Year (Karen)
- ❑ Sustainability Spotlights from Schools (All)

Land Acknowledgement

We now invite everyone to acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today. Recognizing that we are on stolen land is important because it acknowledges that the present United States is a collection of territories and land purchases accumulated by genocide. We are thankful to be able to be here and have this event. We ask that everyone be conscious of their place on the native lands of North America and our role in colonialism. Remembering the history, and honoring the contributions and traditions of indigenous peoples is one step towards fighting their erasure. We pay respect to the Elders past and present and extend our recognition to their descendants.



D65 Sustainability Update

Karen Bireta
Sustainability Coordinator



Earth Month Celebrations



Dawes

3rd graders volunteered at lunches to help younger students compost.



Bessie Rhodes

Earth Month climate action project is in the works! We have the PTA involved. It will extend beyond April since it involves the garden and school grounds and they can't begin planting until after the first frost. A parent volunteer is ready to repair our garden boxes that need fixing. Coordinating with homeroom teachers to request a particular veggie or flower.

Help Plant A Butterfly Garden At Chute!

Join Green Steam!

*On Saturday, May 20, 2023
9:00am-3:00pm*

Why?

- *Helps Monarch's Migration!*
- *Supports Illinois' local wildlife!*
- *Reduces Climate Change!*

*Bring a water bottle,
sunscreen, and if
possible, a shovel!*

Need more Info?

*Contact: Mohrenweiserw@district65.net,
Hillerc@district65.net*

Earth Month Celebrations



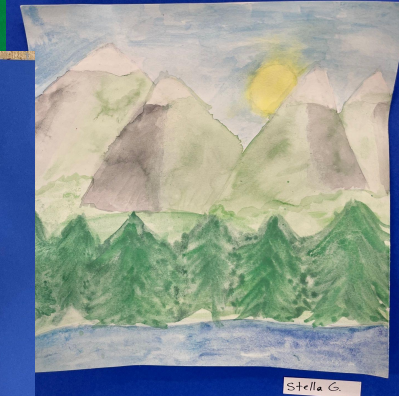
Kingsley All grade levels are getting an opportunity to visit the outdoor school garden in April and May. Classes will begin to grow plants that will be transferred to the garden when the ground is ready.



Earth Month Celebrations

Haven

Haven Middle School celebrated Earth Day through student created artwork. They often say a picture says a thousand words and this artwork definitely highlights that! Special shout out to Mr. Engh for his collaboration and partnership. Way to go Haven artists!

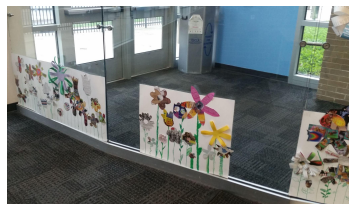


Earth Month Celebration



Lincoln. Fantastic Florals

All grade levels had the opportunity to create flowers using recycled materials (paper, magazines, envelopes, boxes, etc.). The flowers were then arranged (by students) on poster boards, and displayed at the front entrance.



Earth Month Celebration



Lincoln. 5th Grade Legacy Library and Pantry

Created an outside free library and pantry that a teacher from ETHS built with his classroom and the 5th grade students will be helping paint it & install.



Earth Month Celebration



Oakton. Critter Visits by the Evanston Ecology Center for every student during Fine Arts.



Earth Month Celebration



Orrington. On April 21 - every grade level participated in neighborhood litter clean up, on school grounds and surrounding neighborhood sidewalks.



Earth Month Celebration



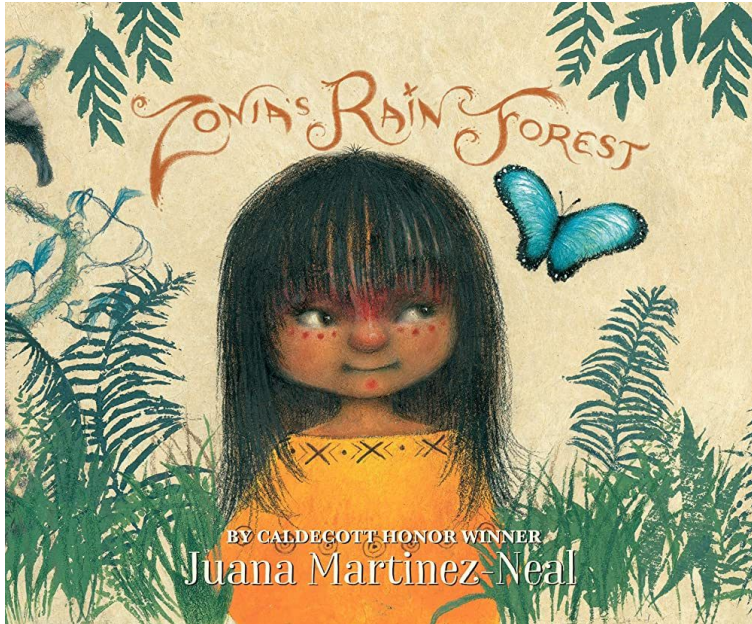
Walker. Hosted an Earth Day grounds clean-up, more than 30 people helped out!



Earth Month Celebration



Washington. Every student at Washington Elementary teamed up together to read [“Zonia’s Rain Forest”](#) by Juana Martinez-Neal as a One Book One School event. The first grade classes loved having their buddies read the story to them!



Earth Month Celebration



Classroom Engagement

Eco Heroes and Eco Tips
google slides
([English and Spanish](#))

Encouraged Teachers to
share with their
classrooms daily during
Earth Week (April 17-21)



10 Second Film Festival



D65 Climate Action Teams and Climate Action Evanston (formerly CGE) celebrated Earth Week at the [10 Second Film Festival](#) on Friday, April 21 in the One Rotary auditorium. The event featured ten second environmental films created by D65 students and community members, along with a live performance by the Sullivan Sisters @sullivansistersbluegrass and speech from Emmet Ebels-Duggan at E-Town Sunrise. Thanks to all who joined us and D65 students for submitting such inspiring 10 second films on climate action solutions!



50+ News Trees at:

1. Dewey
2. Haven
3. Nichols
4. Kingsley
5. Lincolnwood
6. Oakton
7. Walker
8. Washington
9. Willard



Forest Therapy for Middle School Climate Clubs



That Forest Feeling

Offering a heart-centered practice to help people (re)connect to nature and themselves.



Stationary Recycling Closing



TerraCycle Program Closure on May 31

Drop-off any items to recycle by Friday,
May 19 at at D65 Warehouse, 2017
Greenleaf Street in Evanston addressed to
Karen Bireta.



5th Ward School Commitments



The District is committed to making the greatest effort to make the building as green as absolutely possible within the existing budget and time constraints. This includes a commitment to pursuing LEED Gold or Silver certification.

Currently, the district is planning on the following sustainability features:

- All-electric / Carbonless Building
- Photovoltaic Panels/Micro Grid
- High-efficiency HVAC System
- LED Lighting
- Composting
- Producing Excellent Indoor-air Quality
- Abundance of Natural Light
- Water Efficient Fixtures
- Use of Regional Materials



D65 website, [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for 5th Ward School including Sustainability Features.



D65 END OF SCHOOL CLASSROOM & LOCKER CLEAN OUT

SCARCE Items accepted:

Books - any & all
School Supplies: new / like-
new
Art Supplies
Folders
Calculators
Paper - unused, all kinds
Cords & wires
Inkjet Cartridges (no toners)



Complete
list here

Art Makers Outpost Items accepted:

Art Supplies: new / like-
new
Pencils
Markers
Plastic pieces from
games or learning tools
Misc game pieces

**LOOK FOR COLLECTION BOXES IN YOUR SCHOOL
MAY 8 - JUNE 9, 2023**

We encourage sharing and reusing within your school!

New and used condition is accepted; items must be clean, safe and working.
Remaining items will be donated to Art Makers Outpost (local) and SCARCE.

2023 Key Resources:

- [2023 Timeline and Process](#)
- [2023 D65 Guidance Manual](#)
- [2023 Participating Schools](#)
- [Flyers for Printing and Digital \(English and Spanish\) PDF](#)
- [Collection Box Signage for Printing and Digital \(English and Spanish\) PDF](#)
- [Sign Up Genius - D65 End of School Clean Out](#) for ETHS Student Volunteers



D65 END OF SCHOOL CLASSROOM & LOCKER CLEAN OUT

ART MAKERS OUTPOST ITEMS ACCEPTED:

Art Supplies - unused, like-new

- Tempera
- Acrylic
- Gouache paints
- Air dry clay
- Femo
- Sculpey
- Woodworking tools
- Brushes
- Pencils
- Charcoal
- Canvases
- Spray paint
- Glitter
- Various craft supplies
- Crayons
- Markers
- Plastic pieces from games or learning tools
- Misc game pieces



Learn
More Here



D65 END OF SCHOOL CLASSROOM & LOCKER CLEAN OUT

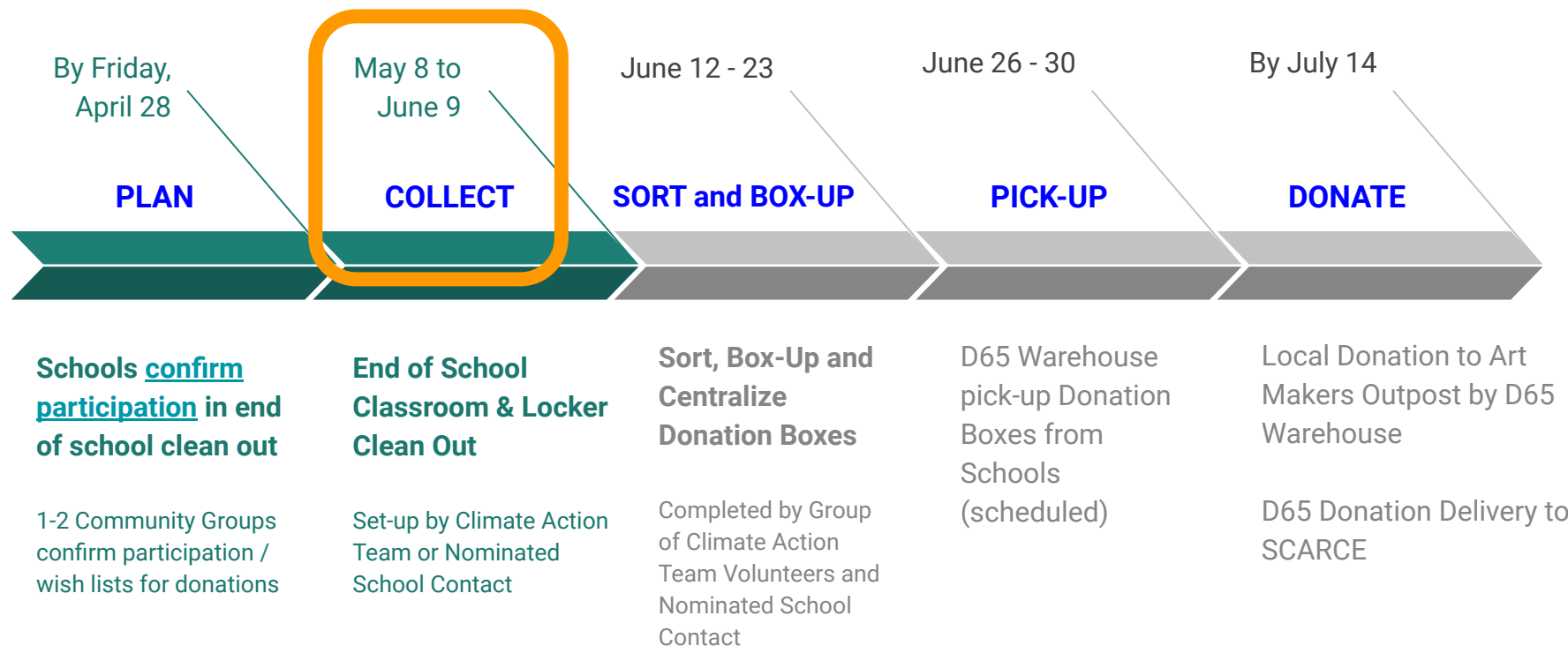
SCARCE ITEMS ACCEPTED:

- Books - any & all
- Cords & Wires (phone, computer, etc)
- Like-new games, puzzles, flash cards
- Musical Instruments
- Inkjet Cartridges (no toners)
- Pens, Pencils, Markers
- Glue, Glue Sticks
- Notebooks - unused or like-new
- Art Supplies - unused, like-new
- Paper Clips, Binder Clips, Push Pins
- Paper - unused, all kinds
- Chalk
- Crayons (new, used, broken)
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Scissors
- Tape, Tape Dispenser
- Folders - unused, like-new
- Staplers, Staples
- Poster Board - unused, like new
- Calculators (no adding machines)
- Rulers & Protractors
- New Stickers & Labels - whole sheets or rolls
- Unused Envelopes
- White Boards, Cork Boards



Learn
More Here

2023 End of School Classroom & Locker Clean Out



2023 End of School Classroom & Locker Clean Out



Progress so far:

- 11 schools signed up to participate
- Identified local organization to donate: Art Makers Outpost
- Identified regional organization to donate: SCARCE
- Created [D65 Guidance Manual](#)
- Created canva flyers & collection box signage
- Hosted kick-off meeting with point people at participating schools
- Recruiting ETHS student volunteers

Participating Schools:

1. Bessie Rhodes
2. Dawes
3. Dewey
4. JEH Early Childhood
5. Haven
6. Nichols
7. Oakton
8. Orrington
9. Walker
10. Washington
11. Willard

POSITIVE IMPACT

22-23 SCHOOL YEAR



Achieved our Goal, as of Nov 2022!



According to the Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition, [Evanston/Skokie School District 65](#) has set a record in our We Compost program with having the most number of schools in a district participating in food scrap composting!

D65 Lunchroom Composting and Recycling Video:
[English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Cheers to D65 Climate Clubs



Jane Goodall's
Roots & Shoots

**Dewey Elementary
Roots & Shoots Club
3rd - 5th Graders**

Lead by:

- Tammy Astor, Teacher
- Pat Cleveland, Retired D65 Teacher
- Carley Pernokas, Dewey Parent



**Nichols Middle School
Climate Club
6th - 8th Graders**

Lead by: Alexa Sorock,
Social Studies Teacher



**Chute Middle School
Green STEAM Club
6th - 8th Graders**

Lead by:

- Wendy Mohrenweiser, Special Ed Teacher
- Dana Salazar, Special Ed Teacher
- Valantina Basue, Math Teacher
- Claire Hiller, Science Teacher
- Jennifer Maillis, Bilingual Teacher

City Recycling Truck Art Competition



Congrats to Zeynep, 8th Grader at Chute!

Keep an eye out for the City recycling truck rolling through town.



Positive Impact: LED Lighting Upgrades



LED Lighting Upgrades at 11 Schools in Summer 2022

- Improved lighting levels for Students and Teachers
- Dimmable lighting options for Teachers
- 25% reduction in electricity used at 11 schools (Fall '21 vs Fall '22)
- Saving 233 metric tons CO2, equivalent to 45 homes electricity use in one year



LED Lighting Upgrades

- Chute
- Dawes
- King Arts
- Haven
- Lincolnwood
- Nichols
- Oakton
- Park
- Walker
- Washington
- Willard

Summer 2023:
complete lighting
upgrades in all
schools

Verano de 2023:
finalización de la
modernización del
alumbrado en todas
las escuelas

Renew America's Schools Grant



Pursuing a grant with U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Improvements at Public K-12 School Facilities - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - Renew America's Schools.

- ★ Submitted our Concept Paper submitted on January 26th.
- ★ Proposing upgrades at **7 school buildings** based on age and highest need for energy efficiency upgrades for a total **funding request of \$11,759,000**.
- ★ **We submitted a Full Application by April 21, awaiting decision this Summer.**

ComEd Carbon-Free Assessments



Completed 4 assessments in January and February:

- Haven
- Chute
- Nichols
- Kingsley

Received reports from ComEd in late March, internally evaluating results and if we want to complete at remaining schools.

[Public Schools Carbon-Free Assessment](#)

Healthier school environments for our future astronauts

A Public Schools Carbon-Free Assessment (PSCFA) is your ticket to a happier, healthier school. With the ability to apply for grants, guidance on becoming carbon-free, and a no-cost, no-hassle process, the PSCFA allows you to significantly impact your school's future without disruption to your day-to-day schedule.

While you shape our future astronauts, we'll help you plan to get your buildings in shape for a carbon-free future. Enroll your school in ComEd's PSCFA to receive:

- Guidance on becoming carbon-free
- Instant ways to save money and reduce carbon emissions
- Details on supporting electrification (like electric buses)
- Solar energy potential of your building
- Guidance on WELL certification
- Qualification for a grant under the School Construction Law*



Recycling & Donations in our Schools



Trick or Trash Candy Wrapper Recycling



7 Participating Schools: Chute, Haven, JEH, Nichols, Oakton, Walker, and Lincolnwood

Stationary Recycling came Back



Books4Cause Donations from our Schools



Sustainability Spotlight at your School



D65 Sustainability Resources



Check out the following resources!

- ★ [D65 Sustainability Focus: 22-23 School Year](#)
- ★ [D65 Guidance for Climate Action at Schools: 22-23 School Year Sustainability Focus](#)
- ★ Karen Bireta, Sustainability Coordinator biretak@district65.net

Growing our D65 Climate Action Community at every D65 school!

Please update or add contacts to this school year's [contact list!](#)

- ★ Climate Action Team chairs / committee members
- ★ Garden Team leads
- ★ Climate Clubs
- ★ Teachers / Staff passionate about sustainability
- ★ PTA emails
- ★ School PTA emails to Families

D65 Sustainability Resources



- [D65 Lunchroom Composting & Recycling Resources](#) (1-pager)
- [D65 Tree and Native Planting / School Food Garden Process at our Schools](#)
- [D65 Climate Action & Garden Community Contact List: 22-23 School Year](#)
- [Trick or Trash Candy Wrapper Recycling: D65 How to Guide](#) October - November
- [Books4Cause](#) (D65 Guidance): Free children's books for school libraries plus book donation
- [D65 Sustainability Website](#)
- [D65 Climate Action Community - Google Drive](#)

Looking Ahead:

- **This summer:** Email with community survey asking for input on next school year sustainability focus areas
- **Next School Year:** D65 will host 3 climate action community meetings (Fall, Winter and Spring)





Thank You!