

# POSITIVE IMPACT

22-23 SCHOOL YEAR



**EVANSTON/SKOKIE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 65

Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes

# 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](#)

# Our Positive Impact: 22-23 School Year



## Lunchroom Composting & Recycling



22-23 SCHOOL YEAR POSITIVE IMPACT



**6,540**  
Students at  
17 Schools

**222,735 lbs.**  
Composted  
Waste

**363,086**  
Trays  
Composted

- ★ 111 Metric Tons  
~ 60 Giraffes  
[111 Tons | Measure of Things](#)
- ★ ~3.9 Sears Towers, total height of  
trays stacked
- ★ 97.8 Metric Tons of Carbon  
Emissions Avoided by  
Composting instead of Landfilling  
  
~1617 Tree Seedlings growing  
for 10 Years

[22-23 School Year Positive Impact Lunchroom Posters](#)



# 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



# 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\*





# 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.

# City Recycling Truck Art Competition



## Congrats to Zeynep, 8th Grader at Chute!

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







## 80+ News Trees this year at:

1. Dewey
2. Haven
3. Nichols
4. King Arts
5. Kingsley
6. Lincolnwood
7. Oakton
8. Walker
9. Washington
10. 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.



# NEW Process - Tree and Native Planting / School Food Gardens



Good news, a new collaboration and approval process for Tree and Native Plantings on our D65 School Grounds is now available [click here](#). This also applies to any new or major renovations to School Food Gardens.

- New Tree Planting
- Planting Native Plants
- Major Renovation to School Food Garden
- New School Food Garden
- Tree Removal (including ground out stump)
- Shrub Removal

We're encouraging our school staff, families and community members to use this process to collaborate and submit requests to their principals, assistant principals and custodians. Make sure to allow time for school leader review and approval, prior to any plantings or digging.



# 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





# 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](mailto:Mohrenweiserw@district65.net),  
[Hillerc@district65.net](mailto: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.

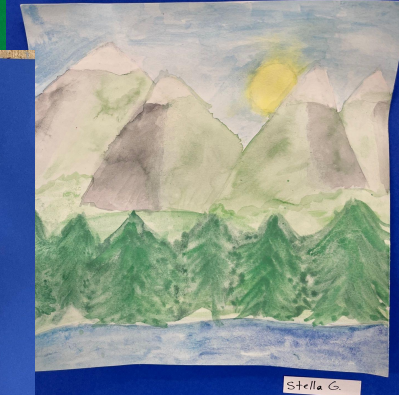




# Earth Month Celebrations

## 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!



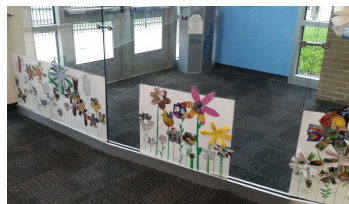


# Earth Month Celebration



## 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!

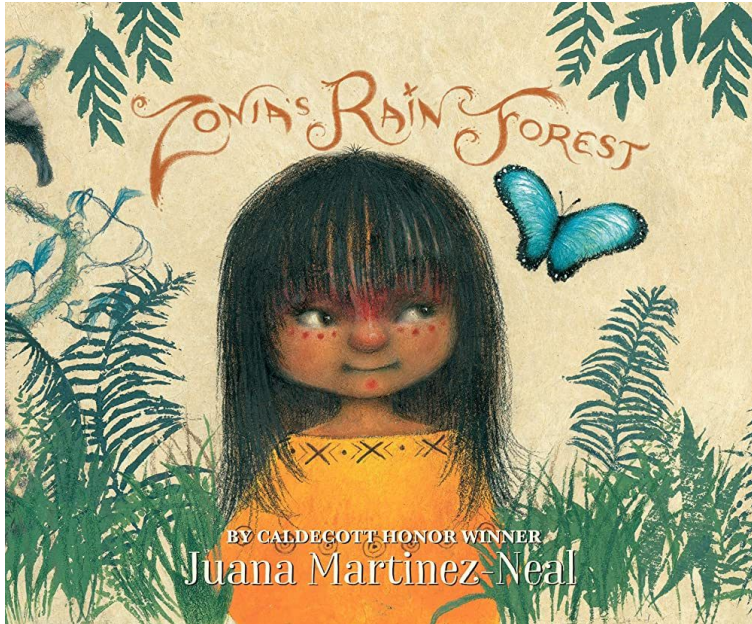




# Earth Month Celebration



**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!





## 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.

## 12 Participating Schools:

Bessie Rhodes, Dawes, Dewey, JEH  
Early Childhood, Haven, Kingsley,  
Nichols, Oakton, Orrington, Walker,  
Washington and Willard

## 2023 Key Resources:

- [2023 Timeline and Process](#)
- [2023 D65 Guidance Manual](#)
- [Flyers for Printing and Digital \(English and Spanish\) PDF](#)



## D65 END OF SCHOOL CLASSROOM & LOCKER CLEAN OUT 2023 POSITIVE IMPACT

**12**

**Participating  
Buildings**

**203**

**Donation  
Boxes**

**62**

**Volunteers &  
Staff Helping**

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**BESSIE RHODES, DAWES, DEWEY, HAVEN, JEH EARLY CHILDHOOD, KINGSLEY,  
NICHOLS, OAKTON, ORRINGTON, WALKER, WASHINGTON, AND WILLARD**

**We encouraged sharing and reuse within our schools and D65 Families!  
Created 3 School Supply Swap Closets at Haven, Dawes & Lincolnwood.**

**Remaining items were donated to Art Makers Outpost, SCARCE,  
Books4Cause, Better World Books and Goodwill.**



## LIMPIEZA DE SALONES Y CASILLEROS DE FIN DE CLASES DEL DISTRITO 65 IMPACTO POSITIVO 2023

**12**

**Edificios  
Participantes**

**203**

**Cajas de  
Donación**

**62**

**Voluntarios y  
Personal Ayudando**

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**BESSIE RHODES, DAWES, DEWEY, HAVEN, JEH EARLY CHILDHOOD, KINGSLEY,  
NICHOLS, OAKTON, ORRINGTON, WALKER, WASHINGTON Y WILLARD**

**Fomentamos el intercambio y la reutilización en nuestras escuelas y familias de  
D65. Creamos 3 armarios de intercambio de material escolar en Haven, Dawes y  
Lincolnwood.**

**Los artículos restantes se donaron a Art Makers Outpost, SCARCE,  
Books4Cause, Libros de Un Mundo Mejor y Goodwill.**

# Water Savings at Oakton



Oakton Schools washrooms have been in need of updates. Water pressure and time clocks on the urinals have created excessive amount of water being wasted.

This Fall, our D65 in-house plumber replaced the water riser pipes for the boys bathrooms and time clocks on the urinal flush valves with manual flush valves.

## Positive Impact:

- Saving 280,000 gallons of water in the coming 12 months
- \$2000 cost savings by reducing water usage





# Shout Out: Walker Fall Fest

From Jennifer Gilbert:

We've added some environmentally-friendly initiatives to Walker's annual fundraising carnival, WalkerFest on November 5th!

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle at WalkerFest and Beyond!

November 5th from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Walker Garden Pumpkin Smash

During WalkerFest, bring your carved or unused pumpkins to the Walker Garden for composting. You can smash them yourself at the smash station or leave them and the Girl Scouts will smash them for you. A small pumpkin = 1 Walkerbuck & a large pumpkin = 5 Walkerbucks



### WalkerFest Playground Clean Up

Help keep our Walker playground safe for the environment by cleaning it up. 1 Walkerbuck for every 5 pieces of trash. Gloves will be provided.

### Trick or Trash

Don't let your family's candy wrappers go to waste! Recycle your candy wrappers during WalkerFest and at school November 1 - 18. Students can bring empty plastic, aluminum and paper candy wrappers to Walker and place them in the Trick or Trash recycling box outside the main office. Let's fill our Trick or Trash box and keep candy wrappers out of our community's landfills this Halloween! Find out more at [trickortrash.com](http://trickortrash.com).



### ESCCA Collection

We will be collecting New and gently used fall and winter clothing for the Evanston School Children's Clothing Association. Here is the link for what they are most in need of right now: <https://www.escca.org/>.

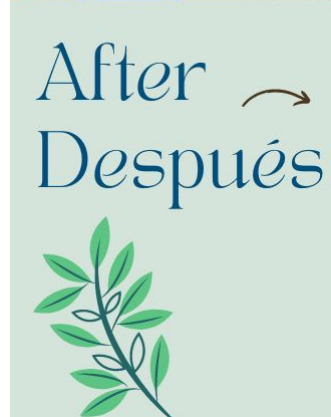
# Shout Out: Oakton Book Donations



**Unused book area is converted into a new learning space for students.**

Oakton teachers, custodians, parents, and community members teamed up with the D65 Sustainability Coordinator to sort and redistribute the children's books to clear and organize the space.

The books were sorted and restocked to individual classroom libraries. Oakton's free book store open to all students, the Story Store, was replenished. Donations were also made to local organizations in need of literary materials.







Learn more about  
D65 Sustainability Efforts!

# 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](#)

Questions? Contact Karen Bireta, Sustainability Coordinator [biretak@district65.net](mailto:biretak@district65.net)

## 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!  
Gracias!