



SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

FINAL REPORT 2015-2016



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Grades of Green aims to inspire and empower K-12 students with our interactive online program which provides students, educators and parent volunteers with step-by-step instructions to over 40 fun, hands-on and free Grades of Green Activities they can implement at their schools - whether those schools are public, private, inner city or suburban. Registering on the site unlocks these turnkey Grades of Green Activities, and allows schools to earn badges for each Activity they implement and track their environmental progress. We're on a mission to make sure all Grades of Green Activities that schools take on are sustainable for years to come and truly instill environmental values in students that will last a lifetime. We do this by providing every single Grades of Green school a personal Advisor when they register at www.gradesofgreen.org to mentor each school one-on-one as they rollout Grades of Green Activities. By providing personalized support to our schools complete with online resources and incentives, we hope to make inspiring students to care for the environment easy, fun and rewarding for the entire school community!

During the 2015-2016 year, we developed the School Engagement Program to ensure the schools registered on our website are fully supported to rollout Grades of Green Activities. The new program enhances the Grades of Green schools' interaction with Grades of Green staff and ensures the Activities being implemented are sustainable for years to come. The program consists of one-on-one engagement with all Grades of Green schools, newly offered Grades of Green certification levels, website-driven incentives, and on-the-ground support for schools in the Southern California area. Thanks to the generous support of LAcAR GUY, Grades of Green was able to provide support to 13 schools. These schools saw great success, with a combination of over 173,000 gallons of water conserved and 43,000 pounds of trash diverted. Even better? The one-on-one model helped inspire and empower 9,000 students to care for the environment. Your support also helped us engage all Grades of Green schools, from Indonesia to Los Angeles, that reached out to Grades of Green.

By engaging with our schools on a deeper level, Grades of Green was able to inspire and empower even more students around the globe to care for the environment. The Grades of Green Activities are categorized under Energy, Water, Toxins, Waste, Air, and Earth and students, parents, and educators are encouraged to browse their options to see which one(s) they would like to implement. Benefits of the Activity, along with Frequently Asked Questions and Downloadable Resources, are also available on the website so students, parents, and educators will know exactly what to do and why what they are doing is significant. They will also be able to see which other Grades of Green schools have taken on the Activity to create a sense of community among Grades of Green schools. The Grades of Green Activities are written so that parents, educators and students can easily follow the step-by-step instructions and are student-focused, so that students can be the ones leading the projects. Each Activity indicates its level of difficulty, how many people will be needed, and the amount of time it will take. Once the school has taken on a Grades of Green Activity, they receive an online badge to recognize their accomplishments and they reach another level of Grades of Green certification!

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT MODEL FOR SUCCESS

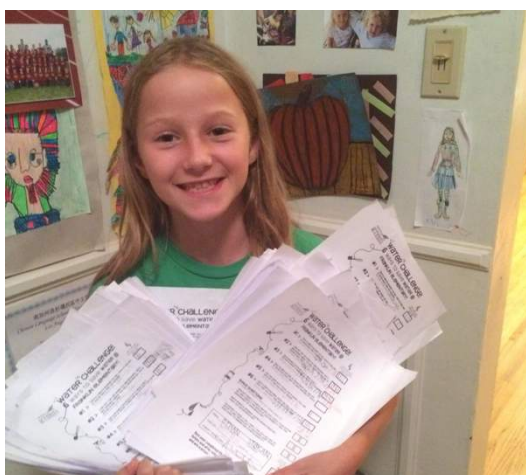
Each time a school registers with Grades of Green, the school receives an introductory e-mail and a consultation call to introduce the school to the Grades of Green program. Over 420 schools are currently registered on the Grades of Green website. This year, Grades of Green provided phone and e-mail support to ALL parents, educators and students who requested it, and with LAcArGUY's support, we were able to provide additional, on-the-ground support to select Los Angeles schools.



Grades of Green launched our website redesign in March 2016. Now, Grades of Green students, parents, and educators have the ability to track their school's environmental progress, gain badges for their school, reach levels of Grades of Green Certification, and earn incentives for taking on more Activities. Schools earn badges that will be displayed on their profile page to show how many Grades of Green Activities they have implemented and what awards they have won. Certification levels for the schools will correlate to the number of Activities they have successfully taken on, with 5 Activities being the number to earn their school the title of a "Grades of Green Certified School." Introducing friendly competition among schools adds a fun incentive for them to take on more Grades of Green Activities.

While all schools that inquired received one-on-one support, Grades of Green staff also visited Los Angeles schools to help them implement and sustain their Grades

of Green Activities. When schools reached out asking for on-the-ground services, Grades of Green staff offered local schools a menu of services to encourage them to register on our website and empower the students to begin protecting the environment through tangible steps.



SCHOOL SUMMARIES

Below is a list of the schools we provided one-on-one support to and their chosen Grades of Green Activity thanks to the donation of LAcarGUY.

Amordei School, Indonesia



Grades of Green staff Skyped with Amordei School in September to help them begin a Grades of Green Club at their school in Indonesia. They are working on establishing student Grades of Green Clubs at each of four related schools. Through Skype, Grades of Green staff will continue to help train the students and teachers to implement Grades of Green Activities.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Grades of Green Club](#)

Towers Elementary School, Torrance



Towers Elementary School has utilized the Grades of Green Activities to reduce their waste, energy use, and water consumption. Their area of focus for this year was in waste reduction and specifically sustaining their Trash Free Lunches program.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Trash Free Lunches](#)

Coon Rapids-Bayard, Iowa



The Athletic Director from Coon Rapids-Bayard in Iowa wanted to get recycling up and running at his school. He saw Grades of Green's website and then used the guidance from Grades of Green staff to implement recycling in his school at athletic events.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [In-Class Recycling](#)

Adams Middle School-Redondo Beach



Grades of Green presented the students of Adams Middle School with a Trash Free assembly on January 26th, 2016. Grades of Green staff helped to implement sorting stations around campus comprised of a liquids bucket, food waste bin, recycle bin, and a landfill bin.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Trash Free Lunches](#)

Playa Vista Elementary, Playa Vista



Playa Vista Elementary school worked with Grades of Green staff to distribute waste reduction flyers and resources so students learn how they can help protect the planet every day.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [In-Class Recycling](#)

Franklin Elementary, Santa Monica



Kindergarten students at Franklin Elementary School were given an assembly about how to pack a trash free lunch and how to sort their lunchtime waste. Grades of Green Youth Corps students Kiera and Felix assisted Grades of Green staff in giving the assembly!

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Trash Free Lunches](#), [Water Challenge](#)

Bishop Montgomery, Torrance



The Dean of Student Life at Bishop Montgomery High School wanted to find ways in which her students could get more involved with environmental initiatives. She was given Grades of Green's Earth Month schedule and her students were invited to attend outreach events in the community.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Earth Day Celebration](#)

John Adams Middle School, Santa Monica



John Adams Middle School in Santa Monica previously participated in the Grades of Green Trash Free Lunch Challenge, but they weren't ready to stop there. The PTA reached out to Grades of Green to help organize a Zero Waste Week to teach the students the importance of reducing what they use and making sure everything gets recycled or put in the trash can to combat the schools litter problem.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Trash Free Lunches](#)

Robinson Elementary School, Manhattan Beach



The Grades of Green Team at Robinson Elementary School hosted a No Idle Zone rally with signs and "good tickets" made from recycled materials in order to encourage parents to turn off their engines while waiting to pick up their students from school. Their signs, sayings, and efforts were recognized by Assemblymember David Hadley and CBS Local News. Assemblymember Hadley then came back to the school in June for a presentation in recognition of ACR 160, a state Resolution inspired by Grades of Green's No Idle Zone Activity.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [No Idle Zones](#)

Westlake Village School, Westlake Village



Westlake Village School was looking for ways to get their students more involved with environmental initiatives, and looked to Grades of Green for resources like our hand stamp artwork and fun Activities to participate in for Earth Month.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Trash Free Lunches](#)

Meadows Elementary School, Manhattan Beach



Meadows Elementary School took on Grades of Green's Trash Free Lunches Activity in the 2015-2016 school year after a Youth Corps student, Ethan, became concerned about how much trash the school was making every day. With help from Grades of Green, parent volunteers, and an engaged student body, students at Meadows were able to set up lunchtime sorting and reduce the number of bags of trash they made each day.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Trash Free Lunches](#)

Byrant Ranch Elementary School, Yorba Linda



A parent at Bryant Ranch Elementary School turned to Grades of Green while searching for informative games and activities to play with the students at an after school event. Grades of Green sent her Grades of Green's Trashy Trivia deck and informational flyers, as well as links to environmental facts and Grades of Green Activities students could learn about and implement.

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Grades of Green Club](#)

American Martyrs



American Martyrs is a Catholic school and church that hosts multiple pancake breakfasts every year. Grades of Green staff have been working with American Martyrs to reduce the environmental impact of their pancake breakfasts. In 2015-2016, over 2800 people were served and only made a combined total of 10 bags of trash in the entire year!

GRADES OF GREEN ACTIVITY: [Campus Composting](#)

2015-2016 SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT METRICS

Grades of Green schools generated very impressive statistics through their chosen Grades of Green Activities. A few of these include:

- o 43,400 pounds of trash were diverted from the landfill;
- o 3,584 students educated about waste reduction;
- o 680 students educated about energy reduction;
- o 680 students educated about water conservation;
- o 1 Grades of Green Team was created;
- o 6 million students will breathe cleaner air with the passing of statewide Resolution ACR 160!

American Martyrs diverted 1400 pounds of trash from entering a landfill by introducing composting to pancake breakfasts.

Meadows Elementary School diverted 42,000 pounds of trash from entering a landfill by installing sorting stations at the school.

Towers Elementary School educated 680 students about waste reduction, energy reduction, and water conservation.

Adams Middle School educated 950 students about waste reduction.

Franklin Elementary School educated 900 students about waste reduction.

Adams Middle School educated 1,054 students about waste reduction and the harms of littering.

Robinson Elementary School's No Idle Zone Activity resulted in 418 students breathing cleaner air, and ultimately 6 million kids across the entire state of California.

CUMULATIVE 2015-2016 SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT METRICS



2015-2016 LACARGUY SCHOOL METRICS:

A total of **173,400 GALLONS**
of water were conserved



x 16!

A total of **43,400 POUNDS** of
trash were diverted from a landfill



x 10!

6,000,000 kids will breath
cleaner air!



LACARGUY | GRADES OF GREEN

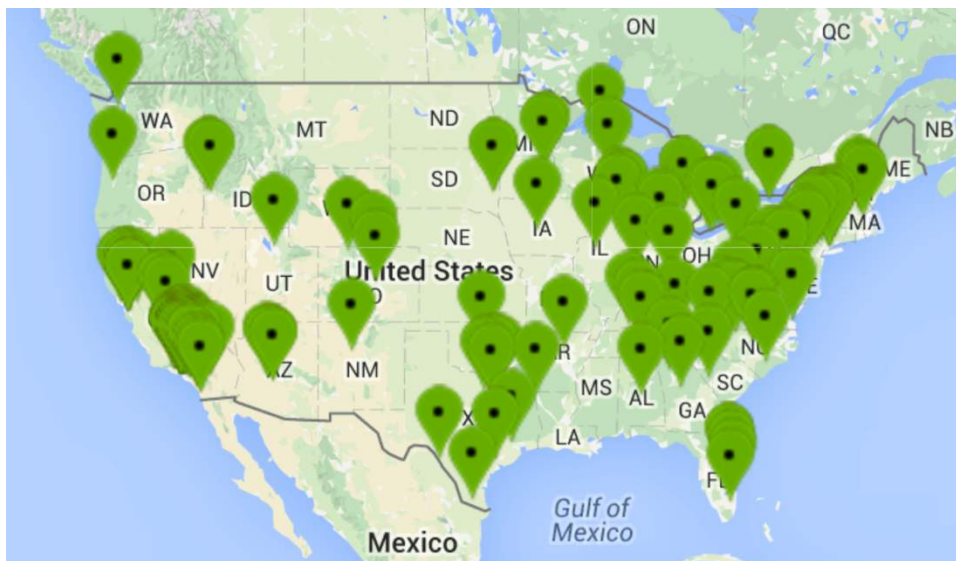
SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT PRESS:

Loam Magazine
 KIIS FM
 Wayne Powell Radio Show
 ABC (no link available)
 CBS (no link available)



GROWTH AND EXPANSION:

Thanks to your support, Grades of Green expanded to help 420+ schools across 38 states and 9 countries! We're excited to continue working with these schools in the upcoming year.



THANK YOU

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

