



**Maple Village Waldorf School Honored Among
2018 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools**

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Education Director Louisa Koch, Director of the Campaign for Environmental Literacy James L. Elder, and Director of the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council Anisa Heming joined Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education Frank Brogan last week to congratulate Maple Village Waldorf School on their achievements at a ceremony at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

Maple Village Waldorf School was nominated by California Department of Education for demonstrating a positive environmental impact, offering a healthy school environment, and weaving environmental literacy, expected outcomes and sustainability requirements into their overall curriculum. By focusing on reusable products they have diverted 95% of waste and by removing all turf and expanding their play yard to create a dirt and mulch play area as well as collecting rainwater for their raised edible gardens, they reduced their water usage by 50%. They endeavor to have a totally chemical-free environment through the use of Green Cleaning Products. Children take part in preparing and cooking 100% organic food which includes access to the "picking garden". With the belief that education will support families' and staff's overall health and wellness, offered programs and workshops such as conscious parenting, cooking classes, yoga and meditation, and professional development in Environmental Principles and Concepts from their partner, TreePeople, have shown great results in their community.

"Maple Village has a great philosophy of having little to zero waste and farm to table education for their students and I am proud that they have been selected as a Green Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education" says Long Beach Mayor, Robert Garcia. "As a city that strives to be a leader in sustainability, we are happy to see our schools getting such recognition."

Dean of Education, Lisa J. McCarthy shares, "Our school opened with a goal of having a small environmental footprint. We are very proud not only of what our school community has achieved on campus, but also how they have integrated these habits into their daily lives. It is exciting to be one of only six private schools in the country to receive national recognition and have the ability to share our ideas with schools around the country and inspire them to minimize waste, save energy, provide students with a healthy physical and social lifestyle, and include environmental literacy in their STEAM curriculum."

At the event, 46 schools and six districts were honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and costs, promote better health, and ensure effective environmental education. The selectees include 40 public schools, including two magnet schools and two charter schools, as well as six nonpublic schools. Forty-five percent of the 2018 honorees serve a disadvantaged student body. Representatives from honored schools, districts, and postsecondary institutions received sustainably crafted plaques in recognition of their achievements.



GreenRibbonSchools

View [list](#) of all selected schools and districts and [summaries](#) of each of the 58 honorees. More information on the federal recognition award can be found [here](#). Resources for all schools to meet the criteria for the award can be found [here](#).

A Note on the Award Name for Use in Communications

ED's award is called "U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools". It is abbreviated ED-GRS. "Green Ribbon Schools" without the "U.S. Department of Education" is not ED's award, but instead is a separate program overseen by another organization. A selected school is a "Year U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School." There is no "National," "Award," or "Program" in the title. There is no apostrophe or hyphen after Education.



Lisa Jordan McCarthy

Pictured left to right; Frank Brogan, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education, Petter Hennum, District Energy Manager, Lisa Jordan McCarthy, Dean of Education of Maple Village Waldorf School, Adam Honeysett, Director of State and Local Engagement for the U.S. Department of Education



Front of Maple Village Waldorf School

U.S. Department of Education - 400 Maryland Ave, SW - Washington, DC

20202

