

## **PROPOSED NHKS 2007-2008 RECYCLING PROGRAM**

In an effort to streamline activities and incorporate the BOG-School Life Committee into the NHKS-PTO, the PTO is responsible for the recycling program. The PTO would like to make a few changes to the collection process and develop an approach to connect students to the recycling program. It is our hope this will expose the students to recycling efforts, conservation, and taking care of the planet. Hopefully, this will trickle down into healthy habits and community minded thinking.

### **GOALS:**

#### **A. INCREASE RECYCLING PARTICIPATION.**

The PTO is going to offer three ways for the NHKS staff and parents to participate in the NHKS recycling program: 1) bi-monthly curbside, 2) park and drop, and 3) redemption receipt collection.

1) Bi-monthly curbside collection during the morning drop off will be offered typically on the 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of the month. The PTO will increase parent participation by having classrooms sponsor recycling collection. Three or more parent volunteers from the sponsoring class will be available to help with the collection and sorting recyclables. The recycling committee will have one committee member available to help organize the parent volunteers. Monthly class sponsors are as follows:

#### **MONTHLY RECYCLING CLASSROOM SPONSOR**

September 6 -20 – Tobias	October 11 - 25 – Raduziner/Beauchemin
November 8 – Beauchemin	December 6 – Rodney
January 10 - 24– Smith/Rodney	February 7 – 21 – Komoda/Hohnstein
March 6 – Hohnstein	April 3 - 17– Morton/Evans
May 1 -15– Evans/Neuman	

Please note that we will have only one drop off during months near school breaks.

By increasing the number of drop off days, we would like to encourage more parents to bring their regular recycling into the school rather than disposing of it or sending it off to another drop off sight. Many NHKS families do not have sufficient storage and want to dispose of recyclables quickly. It should be noted that we will have only one drop off during months near school breaks. Those classes sponsoring months with one collection day will be requested to help with months that need additional volunteers. Bi-monthly collection will be monitored in September and October to determine whether it should continue for the remainder of the year.

PTO POC's for each class will contact the sponsoring class parents the month prior to collection to ensure enough volunteers are available on their class's recycling days. Volunteer parents should arrive at the school at 7:20 to be prepared for the 7:30 drop-off line. Parents can choose if they would like their kids to help with them until 7:50 on the recycling day they volunteer. Some parents have offered to help on a more regular basis with this program. Sorting should be completed around 9am.

- 2) During the rest of the month, parents can park and drop their clean and sorted recycling in the appropriately marked receptacle containers available on campus on the far side of the office building. All recyclables must be rinsed and in clear plastic bags for drop off. We will be asking parents to presort out glass, for the safety of our students, and to always use clear plastic bags when dropping off either by car or in the bins.
- 3) Parents may also turn in their redemption receipts from recycling at the NEX.

Other suggestions that are being considered:

- Have a battery/old cell phone/ printer cartridge drive.
- Possible recycling drop-off during social events. (Amy volunteers for that, too)
- Recycle bumper stickers.
- Have a recycling booth at Earth Day or as a station at the end of the year Fun Day outlining all the things students have learned throughout the year.
- Pledge card to receive cloth Grocery Bags.  
Need to see if possible due to cost constraints (<http://chicobag.com/>) Say no to plastic bags. Use paper bags and recycle them or use your own reusable bags. 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are used each year and most end up in landfills or hurting animals on land and in the sea.

**B. CREATE AN INITIAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR NHKS STUDENTS THAT CONNECTS THEM TO THIS ISSUE AND TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.**

This year, we would like to try to create some kind of monthly topic/tip that teaches basic ecology and environmental maintenance. Basically, we want to create kids who think and act on these ideas at home and in the world. This way, the recycling program becomes something more than a fundraiser. Connecting with the community is one of the school wide learning expectations of education for the school.

The Recycling Committee proposes the theme this year as “Simple Things We Can Do That Make A Difference”. The first Thursday of the month a topic will be presented at flag by the Recycling Aunties who will have a hat made of recyclables, a vest of newspaper, etc. Jack Johnson’s Three R’s song will be played. Report the running tally of bags recycled for the year to show students how much garbage that was not in a landfill by recycling. To follow up on the monthly flag topic, the newsletter will have a monthly Recycling Family challenge to allow for parents to reinforce the topic of the month at home.

**RECYCLING MONTLY TOPICS**

**AUGUST- Introduction to Program**

**SEPTEMBER 6- Reduce and Reuse**

**OCTOBER 11- Recycle**

**NOVEMBER 8 - Hawaiian Garden**

**DECEMBER 6 – Water Conservation**

**JANUARY 10 - Energy Conservation**

**FEBRUARY 7 – Pollution**

**MARCH 6 - Caring for the Critters**

**APRIL 3 – Earth Day**

**MAY 1 – Year In Review**

**RECYCLING ASSISTANTS** - The first, second, and third graders will have the opportunity to be recycling assistants during NHKS recycling collection days. Depending on the response, 6-8 students will be welcome to bring recyclables to the sorting area from behind the green benches, stamp student’s hands who are participating, help with sorting, and help with topic at flag as needed. We will provide gloves and smocks to the student assistants. Proper washing will be

encouraged after sorting. This will increase student participation in the recycling program.