

Part B: Summary of Green School Activities

Jensen Beach Elementary continues our ongoing Green School activities and initiatives in order to follow our new Green School motto “Keepin’ It Clean Because Vikings Go Green”. Our Green School Committee is broken down into sub committees to ensure that all facets of a Green School are met. Since 2012 we have committed to these 6 areas composed of students, teachers, parents, faculty, community and administration.

In outdoor learning the School grounds are used for learning across grade levels. The literacy garden is used school wide for buddy reading, independent reading and responding. The “Map” area is used to conduct science experiments. The gazebo is used for multi subject learning .Presentations are also made in the gazebo. The community garden provides students with an opportunity to prepare soil, transplant, maintain and harvest a garden.

In Habitat Improvement students made bird feeders (recycled items only) were hung for the adopt a tree decorating contest. Students along with the JBE Beautification team restore flower beds and gardens with new green materials. Third Grade Junior Gardeners partnered up with the local Garden Club to create self-watering planters.

We have continued our efforts in school sustainability. FPL visited our school and did a play about everyday conservation with grades k-5. Our fundraising efforts continued this year with by recycling broken crayons to turn into new useable crayons and sold for .25. The money was used to build wells in Africa. We also had a healthy alternative to our fundraising by selling apple grams for \$1. This gave us a great profit to purchase a new rain barrel for our school. Health and Well-being was greatly promoted this year through quest speakers Britt Brandon, Health, Nutritionist, and author as well as Beth Leahy our school health assistant. Our solid waste efforts continued through our 3 R’s. Recycling in the cafeteria, reusing broken crayons, our Publix bags recycling program, upcycling of items to be reused on class projects in art are just a few of our many endeavors. Cool Pool and our Walk and roll days have helped us decrease traffic and bring awareness to our parents and students. JBE has a rain barrel that the students use to water the plants in our school vegetable garden. We also used our fundraising money this year to purchase another rain barrel. We raised money to send to Africa to help build wells for families in need.

Curriculum integration became one of our main focuses this year. Our administration purchased the book A TREE GROWS for each teacher in the school. We used this for a reader response and incorporated many activities based on this book. Classes became creative including making their own tree books to power point presentations. We used this book to teach the importance of trees to our environment. Second grade also did HOP on POP math games using recycled bubble wrap and math tubes using recycled paper towel tubes to teach math symbols. Some classes also used recycled brown bags to make their year long portfolios. Related arts classes also supported our green incentive by creating recycled art and creating music instruments with recycled fruit can materials. The library also purchased many ebooks in science and social studies to support school wide curriculum to meet the standards.

Many of our community involvement activities have continued this year. Within our school building, students have an opportunity to participate in ROTA kids, JR Gardeners, and our

recycling team. We also have a PTA landscape team that consists of teachers, students, and parents in beautification of our campus. Our community service projects include an Arbor Day program, our JBE garden, the Reading Garden, beach clean ups, and the Audubon Society bird research project. JBE has community partnerships with many supporters. Publix continues to supply a recycle bin for recycled bags. Winn Dixie donated apples for our valentine apple grams. The money raised is donated to purchasing wells for safe water. The community playground has been completed and students participated in designing the playground and planning the landscaping. At JBE we are fortunate to have interested, creative students who help our green team as news reporters for WJBE and in planning many activities.

Our Administrators provide full support for our school and our “Green” initiatives. From School Community to the Community at large, Jensen Beach Elementary fosters an appreciation and awareness of environmental concerns and practices. Through the promotion of the 3 R’s, (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), energy conservation, and habitat preservation our students learn their role in taking care of our environment. Our Mission statement reflects a green school culture. The Principal approves all green school purchases such as our new rain barrel. Our Principal addressed Chamber of Commerce Education Committee on Green School efforts. He will be inviting community leaders to participate and observe our Earth Day activities. He is actively involved by teaching and modeling how to recycle correctly on a daily basis in the cafeteria. Our teachers receive professional development through monthly Green Team meetings are scheduled, staff presentations, and Green workshops. We take great pride in our planning efforts. Our Principal teaches composting and recycling lessons to students in the cafeteria. Students then collect leftover food items in bucket for the composting machine. We have updated our yearly goals power point to share with staff and parents. Our success’ are shared through various ways such as: JBE Parent Newsletter, school website, edmodo, bulletin board in main hallway, JBE electronic monthly newsletter, connect ed, sharing with other schools, morning news announcements, and green school decals hung around school.

‘Green’ innovation found its way to Jensen Beach Elementary this year via the school clinic. Our health assistant wanted to be a part of the school’s movement to become more conscience of what we use and what we waste. Typically, the clinic goes through approximately 100 ice packs per week. Ice packs at Jensen Beach Elementary have always been a handful of ice wrapped in a paper towel and place inside a Ziploc sandwich baggie. What a great deal of waste is thrown out on a weekly basis! To avert this problem, Jensen Beach Elementary now uses reusable ice packs that can be refrozen to be used time and time again. These packs are place inside small cloth pouches to avoid being too cold on the skin, and these pouches are washable – for use with those messy injuries. What a great contribution towards going ‘green’ at Jensen Beach Elementary.

Part C