

## **Part B – Summary of Green School Activities**

Warfield Elementary has made several improvements to its school campus, which has affected the school landscape. Our school grounds, with the help of planning from Garden Club and staff, have become a place for outdoor learning with gardens attracting Florida species.

A focus of Warfield's Green school initiative is habitat improvement and restoration. The school has installed vegetable gardens, hydroponic gardens, and various planting projects using Grow 'ums and pumpkin seeds. Butterflies are attracted to plants that are tended by our students in the butterfly garden. Students work on curriculum at outdoor picnic tables located under newly planted shade trees. The restoration projects have also extended outside our campus; as Warfield initiated a new annual Indiantown cleanup, where students, staff, and community members worked together to clean and restore our community and campus perimeter.

We've also focused on school sustainability. Kilowatt usage has been reduced by 31% versus last year. Warfield has also held green fundraising events to raise money so we can continue our "green" school initiatives. Mighty Milers, Go Noodle, vegetable gardens, and a healthy snack program are examples of the physical and nutritional activities Warfield has implemented to promote health and well being. Solid waste reduction procedures have included composting, paper reduction, and putting recycle bins in every classroom. Multiple programs and procedures have taught students about water conservation. Also, year two of our carpool program has seen an increase of 10% in carpools versus last year.

Warfield staff has used an interdisciplinary approach to integrate environmental concepts into the curriculum. All grades are taught about the Everglades and its importance to Florida. Nature learning is incorporated to provide direct experiences in nature. Students designed wind turbines and measured the amount of wind energy produced using a volt meter.

We have an extensive Green Committee which is involved in the community. These partnerships support our school environmental projects, such as tree plantings, recycling CD's and caps for the Caps of Love project. The Education Coalition, as well as the Pine Jog Education Center helps provide grant money for environmental projects. We have a strong partnership with the chamber of commerce.

The Green School committee meets regularly and receives support from administrators. Administrators share our success at SAC, district, and Chamber meetings. They work with the Oceanographic initiative to obtain grant funds for field trips. Their integration of Science Early Release days and time for planning has been very successful.

Early Release Days emphasize science and environmental studies. Monitoring our school energy usage and collaborating with the District Operations Manager has kept Warfield focused on saving energy. A green fundraiser, Smencils, raised money for Green activities.

Warfield Elementary is committed to our Green School goals and knows that "we make the world we live in and shape our own environment." (Orison Sweet Marden).