

MEMO FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Teachers and Staff:

As you may have heard we will be improving our recycling program in the coming weeks with help from our partner, SWACO. Our goal is to divert all accepted recyclable materials from the landfill to a recycling facility where the materials will be made into new items. We hope that you will lead by example by participating as well as encourage our students to participate in this very important initiative!

By properly sorting and collecting accepted materials for recycling, we will help to save space in the landfill, potentially reduce our landfill hauling service costs for pick-up, manage our waste in more efficient and effective ways, and promote environmental literacy among our students. By providing a means for everyone to properly participate, we can create interactive learning experiences for our students and make a difference!

Our recycling and landfill containers will receive new labels. Please be sure to refer to these labels when deciding how to properly sort materials. Please note that it a best practice to always have recycling and landfill containers placed beside each other to create a disposal station.

Many of the same materials accepted at school are also accepted from Franklin County homes for recycling. Items accepted for recycling in this program include: paper & cardboard, plastic bottles and jugs, metal cans, glass bottles and jars, and carton containers.

We will also make improvements to our collection processes to allow for the proper sorting and diversion of recyclable materials generated in our classrooms and other areas of our school that have recycling containers. When appropriate, recycling containers will be lined with clear plastic liners, while landfill containers will be lined with black plastic liners. Custodial staff will collect recycling and landfill items separately and monitor the volumes in our recycling and landfill dumpsters to measure our impact. Our student council and/or Green Team will also be assisting with these efforts.

We have already begun the process and you will start seeing indications of the program if you haven't already. Select students will be taking pre & post-assessments to benchmark our school's knowledge about accepted recyclables. These students are also participating in other activities to further their knowledge of our program and creating a sustainable approach to our school program.



Resource materials to assist in the awareness and education among our school population will be available to staff and students including a Best Management Practices guide, a list of accepted recyclable and landfill items, signage and informational announcements, teacher lesson plans, and student activities. These resources are available upon request.

I will be assisting with the implementation at our school. You can direct your questions to me and I will consult with SWACO who is helping to coordinate these improved efforts with our school. To learn more about SWACO please visit www.swaco.org.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation as we work towards successfully reducing our waste stream!

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