

Waste and Consumption One Planet School Challenge Example Levels of Engagement



Resources developed by San Mateo County Office of Education's (SMCOE)
[Environmental Literacy and Sustainability Initiative \(ELSI\)](#) • Designed in 2018, last updated May 2020

	CAMPUS OVERVIEW		
The long-term goal of facilities and operations in the Zero Waste category is to achieve a Zero Waste Facility.			
Entry: A baseline audit of waste has been conducted.	Mid-Level: Improvements have been made to the schools waste stream through diversion, reducing, and reusing materials.	Full Integration: A comprehensive plan has been developed and integrated, with the goal of achieving a Zero Waste Facility.	

Achievement Level	ENTRY	MID-LEVEL	FULL INTEGRATION
Description	Non-hazardous waste: An overview of how waste is separated and taken off site. Hazardous waste: Take inventory of what wastes and materials are hazardous, where there are stored, and how they are taken offsite. Do the same for E-waste and Universal Wastes. Benchmark and Monitor: A process is in place to track monthly waste (landfill/recycling/composting), track hazardous and alternative waste, and to	Diversion: Progress has been made toward diverting the amount of waste going to the landfill by recycling or composting. Recycling is done correctly i.e. Universal waste is kept separate and taken to the correct facility, landscaping green waste is all composted. Examples include: tri-bin infrastructure and corresponding waste sorting training, on-site demonstration composting (3-bin, turn style, vermiculture), annual waste audits with diversion rate calculations, switching materials used onsite to recyclable or	Zero Waste Plan and Implementation: Long-Term zero waste goal (90-100% diversion) is approved and being implemented through a combination of reduction, reuse, diversion. The plan takes into account purchasing streams, and events that take place outside of regular schools hours such as athletic games, parent nights, etc. The plan includes such items as: annual waste sorting training, annual waste audits, reuse centers, closed loop organics

	compare (use/amount/disposal) over time. This process should include a benchmark year/waste audit for a baseline amount of waste going to landfill that can be reduced from. A calculation of annual greenhouse gas emissions avoided (by waste diversion) should also be included.	compostable materials. Reduce: Progress has been made to reduce the amount of materials used onsite to reduce waste Reuse: An effort has been made to begin a practice of reusing materials on-site, or donating for re-use. Examples include: copy room scratch paper bins, book donations, furniture donations, etc Collection: “Alternative wastes” such as Universal Waste or E-Waste should be collected and recycled properly. During the waste audits a decrease in the amount of Universal/E-waste in the garbage should be seen.	systems, non-disposables in cafeteria program, etc. Collection and Verification of Hazardous Waste: Alternative wastes should have a designated collection bin that is taken to the correct facilities regularly and that is open to the public to drop waste off at. Partners such as household hazardous waste facilities, local and responsible e-waste processors, and terracycle should be utilized. The hazardous materials and waste storage should be audited by the appropriate authorities to ensure that the site is maintaining a healthy, safe environment.
Waste and Consumption Campus Submission Requirements			
Evidence	Examples include spreadsheet, dashboard, system diagram or waste infographic, inventory table	Examples include photos with descriptions, invoices, dashboard, projects overviews, survey, spreadsheet, reports	Examples include surveys, spreadsheet, reports, project description, photos, data collection, plan and/or annual updates, receipts from drops, audit results/reports
Impact Metrics	not required	The amount of waste per occupant has decreased, % diversion increased, GHG emissions avoided by recycling, the amount of hazardous waste per year decreases, % materials used are recycled/reused, amount donated, % alternative waste found in garbage decreases	Annual calculations of waste diversion and corresponding GHG emissions avoided, amount of alternative waste dropped monthly/annually, marks against the facility for incorrect storage.



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



The long-term goal of Curriculum and Instruction in the Zero Waste category is to bring all students to an understanding of the economic, social, and environmental issues associated with waste.

Entry: Supplemental information on waste provided.

Mid-Level: Ongoing study of the environmental, societal, and economic issues around waste in which students can apply their understanding of well being to solving a waste related issue or challenge.

Full Integration: All students across a grade level are receiving in depth curriculum around waste.

Achievement Level	ENTRY	MID-LEVEL	FULL INTEGRATION
Description	Teacher provides students (and/or faculty and staff) with a supplementary lesson or event that focuses on examining the environmental, social, and economic issues associated with waste.	Ongoing Integration: Teacher provides students with ongoing study throughout at least one unit on the environmental, social, and economic issues associated with waste. Evidence from formative/summative assessments must demonstrate that students thinking regarding waste topics has transformed towards an ecologically beneficial disposition.	Full Integration is achieved when a curriculum regarding the environmental, social, and economic issues associated with waste is being implemented in every classroom across either a grade level or subject.
Waste and Consumption Curriculum Submission Requirements			
Evidence	lesson plan or lesson description, powerpoint	examples include a lesson plan or description, formative/summative assessments	examples include a lesson plan or description, formative/summative assessments
Impact Metrics	not required	examples include the number of students with solid understanding of concepts increases, % of students who prove mastery of concepts	% of students in grade level receiving curriculum



COMMUNITY AWARENESS & ACTION OVERVIEW



The long-term goal of Community Awareness and Action in the Zero Waste category is to achieve community commitment to advocacy and action for Zero Waste.

Entry: A one-off community event has been held.

Mid-Level: A short term awareness or action campaign has been held and achieved 20-50% participation.

Full Integration: An ongoing awareness or action campaign has been implemented with over 50% participation.

Achievement Level	ENTRY	MID-LEVEL	FULL INTEGRATION
Description	<u>Awareness:</u> An assembly has been held or a guest speaker has presented. <u>Action:</u> 10% participation has been achieved in a challenge or pledge that requires the diversion of waste from landfills by increasing recycling and composting. Challenge examples include: switching from plastic to reusable water bottles, starting a compost bin, ordering a compost bin from your waste service, performing an audit of your own trash, etc. - or create your own!	<u>Awareness:</u> A short-term educational awareness campaign for the school and/or greater community has been held, raising awareness about waste diversion and reduction. Examples include: visual aids & graphics (flyers, digital ads, brochures), announcements, annual waste/recycling day, waste audit lesson, etc. <u>Action:</u> 20-50% participation has been achieved in a short or long-term challenge or pledge that requires an increase in waste diversion and decrease in waste. Examples include: art created from reused/recycled materials, a worm bin in the classroom, swap meet/donation day for families, etc. - or create your own!	<u>Awareness:</u> An ongoing educational campaign in school and/or the greater community has been held, promoting zero waste. Examples include: a waste dashboard display, a composting bin and garden to use compost in, permanent educational signage near waste bins, Weekly Zero Waste Days, etc. <u>Action:</u> Over 50% participation has been achieved in an action campaign. OR, A group from the community has achieved a zero waste task, such as: waste free lunches, elimination of plastic water bottles, community E-waste or Universal Waste days

Waste and Consumption Community Awareness & Action Submission Requirements

Evidence	Photos or articles from the event, participant photos from challenge tasks, pledge photos, testimonials, etc.	A flyer, photos, announcement text, participant photos from challenge tasks, pledge photos, testimonials, etc.	Photos with descriptions, project overview, participant photos, article about projects, testimonials, surveys, etc.
Impact Metrics	Not required.	Survey results or testimonials of how the campaign has helped educate the community, the number of people who participated, total amount of waste diverted, GHG emissions saved from waste diverted.	Survey results or testimonials of how the campaign has helped educate the community, # of people participated, total amount of waste diverted, GHG emissions saved from waste diversion.