

The Gates Green Team Composting Project

**Paul P. Gates School
Fourth through sixth grade 2018-19
Advisors: Cindy Holt and Rebecca Acheson
Signature Project**

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GOAL: The Gates Green Team launched a successful composting and recycling program within our school cafeteria..

ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Students in fourth through sixth grade researched how other community schools run their composting and recycling programs. We researched about what food items can be recycled and composted. Students also met with our district energy director several times to answer questions.
- 2) Students created a movie showing the composting process in seven easy steps. This was shown at the All School Assembly on February 7th. In addition, students presented the movie during morning meetings with other classrooms. The movie was also emailed to teachers so they could show it at their convenience. Movie link below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FnYYUaFAzj4g-Sp8EtEv2yr9BuMLi7le/view>



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3) Students created compost questions for a Kahoot game that was shown during the All School Assembly on February 7th (in addition to the movie). Eight staff members played the game in front of the entire school community.

4) Students created posters informing the school community about the composting project. They also created morning announcements reminding the school community about the new lunch changes.

Kahoot Link:

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/composting-trivia/c329a9f6-4d55-44ee-9c9e-f2bab3f5af5e>

The Kahoot! logo is displayed on a purple square background. The word "Kahoot!" is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font with a slight shadow effect. The exclamation point is also white and has a small shadow. The logo is centered within the purple square.

Kahoot!

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5) Students visited most of the classrooms in grades kindergarten through sixth to discuss the composting project during their classroom morning meetings. This allowed students to ask composting questions directly to the green team students.

Presentation link below:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1kAdMNL5_L9s9hyXxoVGpb2pl1IKW2VnemdwxH6VQen4/edit?usp=sharing

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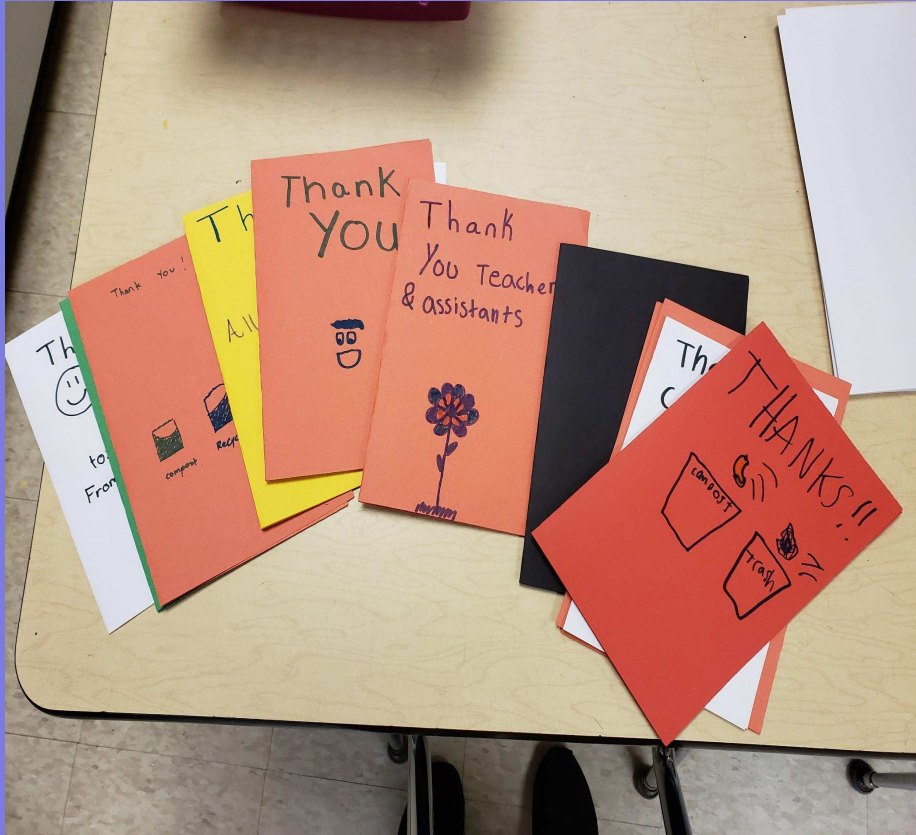
6) Our school started the composting project on Monday, March 4th, 2019. Students worked as compost coaches to help guide the students about what food items go in the tip bucket, trash, recycling and composting.

7) Students met in meetings after the composting launch to discuss what was successful and what needs to be improved. They also asked for input from lunch assistants and teachers.



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8) Students created thank you notes to our lunch assistants, lunch staff, principal and district energy manager showing our appreciation for their efforts!



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ENERGY RESOURCES: Energy websites linked to www.NEED.org.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP: The Green Team students showed their leadership skills during the all school assembly, the morning meetings and working as compost coaches. For the all school assembly, students created the video and Kahoot questions. For the morning meetings, they visited classrooms discussing the composting project. Lastly, they work as compost coaches during lunches to guide students about where to put their lunch items.



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EVALUATION: During several meetings after the composting launch, students discussed what was working well and what needed to be improved. We also asked for the input from lunch assistants, lunch staff and teachers. We make sure that students go to the composting line as soon as they finish their lunch so there is not such a long line at the end of lunch time. Hopefully, this composting project will encourage students to do more composting and recycling at home!