This year in our energy club we did many energy related and community projects. One project was how our classes made model solar communities and learned about the pros and cons of cleaner energy. We also finished a project that has been 3 years in the making - we planted trees and plants behind our school. We hosted an Energy Family Fun Night, and our middle schoolers helped kindergartners build solar ovens. We also hosted a walk to school day event in the fall, and are planning a bike to school event later this spring. Overall, we learned a lot about energy and had fun sharing what we learned with other kids and our community.
Goal 1: Learn about energy!

Students learned about different energy sources using NEED Energy Infobooks. Then they made either an informational video or a board game to teach others about their energy source.

An activity that students participated in to learn about energy was to create a model solar community. The students linked one solar panel to six wires that connected to light six light bulbs to help light on multiple houses, stores, apartments, and anything else you would include in a community. All of the buildings were made out of paper and the base was made of cardboard and construction paper. The students were learning about energy created by the sun and then harnessed by the solar panels.

Students investigated temperature changes when CO2 is added to the air with NEED’s Greenhouse in a Beaker lab.
Energy Board Games:
The sixth graders created board games to learn about energy. The seventh and eighth graders tried playing these games and gave feedback about the game itself and how information about energy was being presented. Students were able to learn about energy from the board games that were created.
Goal 2: Share what we have learned with the community

We have taught others things we discovered through fun games and activities!

- Energy fun night
- Cooking nachos in solar ovens
- Energy board games
- Solar bead animal
St. John the Baptist School is another school in our town, only two blocks away. We asked the students there to play our games and give us feedback on each game. Overall, they said they had fun playing our games and that the games did a good job of teaching about energy.
Middle School and Kindergarten Buddies made solar ovens!
YUM! 38 students built solar ovens and enjoyed tasty nachos!
Our Energy Club planned a family fun night for students in K-5 and their parents. All these people, 20 kids and 19 adults, made anemometers and an a bristlebot or solar bug. Students in Energy Club planned the event, prepared the supplies, and advertised the event in our school newsletter. We also advertised the event with our principal during the morning announcements. Energy Club members helped families during the activities and ran a door prize raffle at the end of the evening.
Goal 3: Carry out the final steps of our community service project

The water mitigation team has been working to carry out the project of minimizing the amount of water that gets pooled behind Winfield Central School. After being granted money by the school board we started our research, and just last October our project came together the we we planted all the plants and trees.
The water mitigation team installing the plants to the back of Central School.
Goal 4: Host an event to make a difference in our community

In our school district, everyone lives within a mile of the school so we don’t have buses. Many kids still get rides to school. We wanted to encourage kids to get exercise, fresh air, and leave the cars behind. People would use less gasoline and there would be fewer carbon emissions. We hosted an event on National Walk to School Day. For our middle school there was an incentive and the top 2 advisories got to compete in a dodgeball match. They had stickers that were given out as soon as you reached the school. 91% of middle school students participated.
On walk to school day (biking etc. included) we encouraged the walkers to wear green for one of our own Energy Club members who was undergoing a liver transplant. October happens to be Liver Awareness month. Teachers and students were posted at different spots around the school to spot the walkers.
Liver Awareness and Walking

For this Winfield Tiger, liver awareness photos and ribbons were put up on this board near the entrance. We celebrated the success of walk to school day!

We are planning a bigger Bike to School event in May as part of the Energy Innovation Challenge. Three lucky students will win bicycles, thanks to our ESP partners.
Thank you!