Monday, 1/30/11

Dear Principals, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Custodians--

Hello, I hope you had a nice weekend.

I will be sending out a sustainability update every Monday. Feel free to share this e-mail with your students. Each week I'll include a green schools tip of the week, and updates on our sustainability initiative across the school district. As a reminder, I'm our new sustainability manager, working on energy savings and sustainability for our schools out of the facilities department. I'll be working with you to improve our operations and practice in the categories of products, food, energy, waste, and greenspace, with an emphasis on energy reduction and lowering our carbon footprint. In the future we will have a district sustainability website, as well.

As always, feel free to contact me with your thoughts and questions. Thanks for taking the time to read.

- <u>Tip of the Week: Print double-sided.</u> Go to "Print," then "Properties," and select "Duplex," and "Open to Left." Thousands of sheets of paper can be saved (and trees!) by teaching yourself and your students this simple tip.
- RecycleCraze: RecyleCraze officially begins today! See attached documents, including a letter explaining RecycleCraze, from our DPW Recycling Program Manager, Meryl Brott. She does a fantastic job running this program for our district, and can be reached at <a href="mailto:mbrott@cambridgema.gov">mbrott@cambridgema.gov</a> or (617) 349-4836 with any questions.
- Schools will be rated by the most pounds recycled/per student.
  - \*Trophies will be given to the Top 3 schools.
  - \*The school with the best efforts to recycle and prevent waste will receive the Rockin' Recyclers Award.
- Recycling: As a reminder, the worksheets turned in by custodians and pickups measured by DPW help us keep track of the numbers. Thank you to our custodians for this important part of the process!
- Walk-Ride-Days: On Friday morning I attended the 3rd annual Walk-Ride-Days 2011 Kickoff
  Event in Harvard Square. It was co-sponsored by the Harvard Square Business Association and
  the Green Streets Initiative, founded by Janie Katz-Christy. There was a great turnout of
  Cambridge Public Schools students and faculty, including our Superintendent, Dr. Jeff Young, all
  supporting sustainable transportation such as walking, biking, carpooling, or taking public
  transportation to school and work.
- Apply now! The Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award (NEEF) seeks to honor an outstanding middle school teacher (grades 5-8) who successfully integrates environmental education into his or her curriculum and engages students in interdisciplinary solutions to environmental challenges. The award recognizes an educator who can serve as an inspiration and model for others. Teachers serving grades 5-8 in the United States are eligible to apply. The winning teacher will receive an award of \$5,000 to support their work in environmental education. Two teachers will win \$750 merit awards. Applications are due March 14, 2011.
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Have a nice week. -Kristen