

Green Team Report to the Gunn PTSA

The Gunn Green Team was formed in November last year of students, teachers, staff and parents. This was the first official Green Team meeting of any PAUSD school under the auspices of the new Sustainability Strategy. Experiences at Gunn will be used to fine tune the process of implementing Green Teams at the other schools in the District. The Green Team developed the following objectives:

1. Cut **energy** use by **30%**.
2. Reduce **trash** volume by **50%**.
3. Maintain an **alternative commute** participation rate of **80%**.
4. Develop a **campus sustainability** education and awareness program.

Here are a few highlights of current activities.

Waste

1. Mandate double-sided copying.
2. Encourage usage of reusable water bottles.
3. Reduce staff junk mail (estimated at $\frac{3}{4}$ ton per year).

Transportation

1. Tally carpool rate on two different days during the month.
2. Evaluate commute resources: 511 Rideshare, Cool Commutes, MTC.

Energy

1. Create public service ads on video announcements.
2. Replace old appliances and monitors.

The student run environmental club has put together a number of activities for Earth Week, Monday, April 16th through Saturday, April 21st. Each day has a separate focus with the following themes: Food, Trees/paper, Waste reduction, Transportation, Energy, Education, and Electronics recycling. The week will be full of information, activities and give-aways and will culminate with a movie showing on Saturday night. The Green team would like to enlist help from the PTSA in the following ways:

1. Ensure that fundraisers are environmentally sustainable. For example, a fundraiser to sell Gunn-branded reusable shopping bags rather than fundraisers to sell magazines or other high waste items.
2. Support the environmental efforts when funding might be needed to implement larger projects. For example, if the team needs supplies to further environmental practices (such as replacing recycling containers).
3. Encourage membership to get involved. Parents, students or teachers interested in joining the Green Team are welcome to join monthly meeting in the staff lounge, usually held at 2:30 on the first Tuesday of the month.

Finally, the Gunn Green Team would like to encourage all to attend the Climate Action Festival this Saturday (April 14th) at Mitchell Park. There will be great speakers, a kid's fun area, live music and entertainment, exhibits and information tables. This is one of more than 1,000 country-wide events calling on Congress to cut carbon emissions. Acterra will launch a Green@Home program at this event, which will be of immediate interest to people living in the Barron Park and Midtown neighborhoods.

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