



# THE GREEN AND GOLD PLAN

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Mobilize – Greenest

# What is the Green and Gold Plan?

The Green and Gold Plan aims to make a student body committee that deals with climate change at a local level. We will implement environmental-friendly alternatives as well as spread awareness to the faculty and students of our school district. From there, we will educate our schools on proper environmental knowledge and try to incite more environmentally conscious materials for less waste. We will advertise and raise awareness through social media and school announcements. We will make petitions for large-scale changes and fundraise money to outside programs like the Surdna and Mary Robinson Foundation.

Our school is currently going through a HUGE construction plan. A section of our field is being replaced with another building to expand and diversify our school. The completion of the construction is best predicted to be after we graduate so we would like to implement ways for the new building to be eco-friendly before it gets finished.



## What climate issues does it focus on?

- GGP focuses on zero waste and materials that we – the students – have played a part in overtime.
- For example, through research we found that the average secondary school produces 22kg of waste per pupil each academic year (recyclenow)
- Taking inspiration from the greenest challenge on day 6, Zero Waste, we want to design an action plan to reduce wasteful practices found in our school.

## Why does Zero Waste resonate with us?

If you think about it, a good amount of the waste and harmful materials in our landfills come from schools. Schools create an immense amount of waste, and many people are not aware of this. Our school specifically has not enforced climate interventions to try to reduce waste and overall environmentally safer options. We think that a committee to help schools to make more environmentally safe choices.

# How will we synthesize and apply the knowledge we learned during PGC?

PGC has taught us the necessary awareness needed for a change. Without the informational resources, we would not be developing project ideas so easily. Through PGC, we were enlightened by the massive amounts of waste the students produce everyday. From plastic utensils, water bottles, toilet paper, straws, to Styrofoam trays, waste builds up exponentially everyday. These points are all extremely important to our project idea. We will use this saddening information we obtained during PGC to educate others and help choose what simple ways to reduce waste would be best for our school and others. PGC has also taught us ways to have our voices heard and to not be afraid to reach out and make a change.

The logo for 'turning green' features the word 'turning' in a light grey, lowercase, sans-serif font above the word 'green' in a bold, dark green, lowercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a light grey rectangular background.

# Short-Term Goals

Our short-term goal is to reach out to our school faculty and raise awareness at school through any method. We understand that making such a big change might be expensive so for a short-term goal we simply want to start analyzing improvements that could be made. We want to monitor current situations with waste. Then, educate our peers and staff.

- Analyze current situations (How much waste is produced everyday?)
- Get in touch with the superintendent or any other district administrators
- Start raising awareness
  - Encourage students to walk, bike, or carpool in large groups to school
  - Cut down on use of paper
  - Greens in the cafeteria food



## Long-term Goals

Long-term goals include being able to implement some of the major ideas and maintaining it even after we graduate. We understand that change is difficult for especially a school environment. To be able to enforce a difference in our previous harmful practices, a change is guaranteed to happen.

- Replace conventional items that are wasteful
  - Organic Eco-friendly toilet paper alternative
  - Handmade paper from recycled paper
  - More plant-life in the school



# Why is this project necessary?

This project is necessary. Absolutely. An immense amount of waste and harmful materials are produced from school settings and enter our ecosystem.

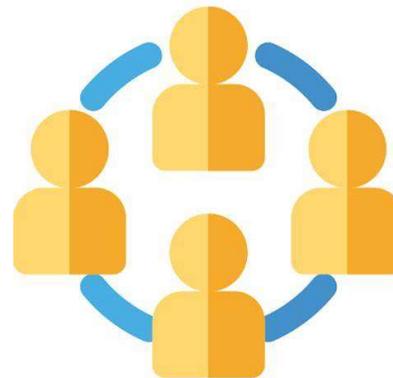
But what can our school do? Our school has so much potential to better itself, but nothing has ever been set in stone. Hopefully, our devotion and determination for change still influence students from other schools. Enforcing these small changes everyday together will slowly become the key to bringing down climate change.

# Who and what does our project benefit?

Our project will not only benefit the schools that are not saving money, but students as well who are utilizing better environmentally friendly supplies. Although this is coming from a bias viewpoint, the students will also benefit in being educated. Most importantly, the environment receives the attention and treatment it deserves because as more of our ideas are taken into consideration, the more changes we make, and the greater the effect will be.

# Who will we need to involve in the early stages of our project to support us?

In the early stages of our project, we will have the four members of our project green challenge group (obviously!), our research teacher, Ms. McAuley, and any administration from the district level that can help us go through with some of plans.



## What are the costs?

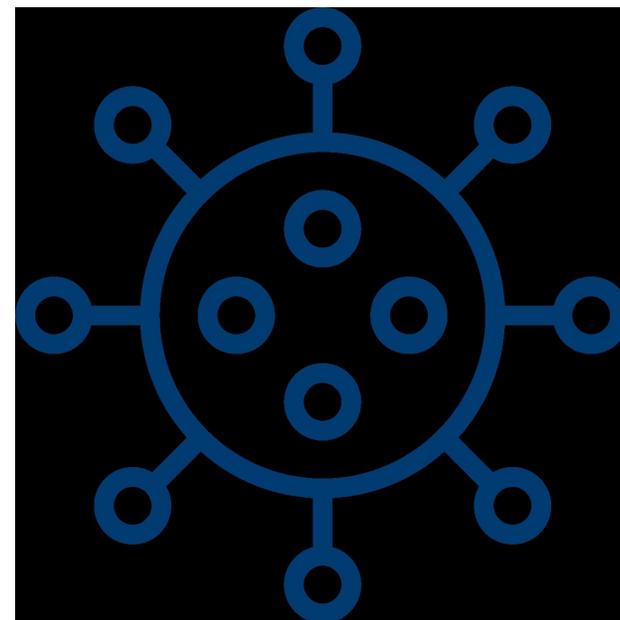
The costs of new materials for schools can be expensive depending on what we are implementing. If we are trying to replace the toilet paper, we use for the organic eco-friendly toilet paper, it will cost significantly more. While just educating students on the matter will only take time. However we would hold fundraisers to earn the money for these implementations. Additional costs will go towards community support. However the project in general should not cost too much of anyone's personal money.

## What are the COVID restrictions?

COVID will not hold back our project greatly, for not much contact is needed for what we need to do. If we were to hold a fundraiser, we cannot pass out the goods unfortunately and might have to develop a pick-up system. Adding on, COVID has affected the economy and made some materials and products harder to come by.

# How has the pandemic influenced our project?

The pandemic has slightly influenced our choice of this project because it was the reason behind as to why we joined PGC. Without the motivation, we would have never been enlightened by information that brought our attention to materials such as organic toilet paper. Also, our school might reject these ideas at first since the pandemic is a top priority in our list and adding more to the workload will only mess something up. This gave us inspiration to try to change the way things are in our school, however in a different approach. Adding on, many people continue to change everyday.



What skills or expertise would be great to have to bring this project to fruition?

Social, public speaking, teamwork, cooperation, fundraising, organization, leadership, and communication skills would be great to have for this project. If we don't have them, we can learn it! The teachers in our school care for the well-being of the students so asking for some advice is always helpful.

## What are the desired outcomes?

The desired outcome is to see our school become more environmentally conscious with products we provide for them. The way the students and the faculty behave afterwards will reflect the way we have changed things. We would also love to make this change in as many other schools that we could reach out to. Hopefully, our passion will get through many people.

## What does success look like?

Success to us can be a very small or very large result. Ideally, we would like to raise money to provide environmentally conscious materials for our school. This way, we can implement change while educating our school campus. A larger success to us would be affecting the whole community to make subtle change. A change is a change. No matter what size, the fact that our school was open to change their ways will be the key to an eco-friendly world.

# PLEASE SUPPORT US IN MAKING THESE CHANGES TO OUR SCHOOL!

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