

As an Environmental Education school we look for ways each day to help our students become environmentally literate learners. Whether in the seat-based program or online we want our students to recognize the role they play in their environment. Here are some of the latest things that we have been working on.

Seat Based:

Grades 7 and 8 are participating in a Team YES Project (Youth Eco Solutions). The goal is to foster youth leadership and community engagement by empowering them to create solutions to today's ecological challenges through hands-on action projects. The students have proposed a school garden idea incorporating pollinators and we will be discussing with local experts to include the possibility of a food forest.

As a part of the program YES provides us some grant money for our projects and we are required to complete a final project detailing the students role in the activities to be reviewed by a panel of Environmental Science experts.

The students will also have the opportunity to spend a weekend at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center in January.

Online:

We continue to track our Environmental goals (Mess-e) in our high school program with continued updates, education, and guidance on both Mess-e progress and Salt watch from our Mess-e coordinator. This leadership and clarification has helped to make our goals and expectations so much more clear for students and educators. We have already had some great participation from students.

Middle school is planning some more exciting field trips including an astronomy adventure at Long Lake Environmental Center and a snowshoing excursion at the CCS school. They continue to find ways to help student engage with the world around them through trips classes and environmental news updates.

Our elementary program has been using our Science Wednesday time to learn about how the things we do affect the world around us. We are learning about the toll salt takes on our environment and learning about alternative ways to remove ice from slippery sidewalks. We also learned about how electricity is made, how circuits work, and things we can do to use our electricity wisely.

We are very excited about our upcoming trip in April to the Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center. Students will be participate in 3 days of outdoor learning and adventure.

This is just a snapshot of the work our staff are doing each day to continue to move are students toward environmentally literate citizens. There are great things happening and more to come.