

# Oakridge Lower Elementary

## Learning by Doing and Serving the Community

### Community Partners

- Home Depo
- Mike Thompson Home Improvement
- Eagle Alloy
- West Shore Electric
- Gonyons Gymnastics
- Parents & Grandparents

### *Cleaning up our campus*



**West Michigan  
Great Lakes  
Stewardship  
Initiative**

## Project Overview

The purpose of this green school project is for students to be aware of their impact on our environment. I want them to know that their choices, positive or negative, effect our environment.

Our project has very lengthy to do list. The following are the projects that we will tackle in order to become a Certified Michigan Green School.

We have created a Center with the capacity to recycle printer cartridges, plastic containers, plastic bags, used cell phones, plastic bottle caps, pill bottles, old cds, metal drink pouches (Capri Sun drinks). We are also donating any clothing items left in the lost and found to a local church. From there these items are given to foster families in need of clothing. In addition, students school wide had an opportunity

to participate in an Earth Day competition. They were asked to create something amazing out of recycled material at their homes. Then they were asked to create a poem to go along with their creation. They had a few weeks to work on the project and 2 winners were drawn. Two winners received a new bike in order to promote green energy/transportation. Also, students were able to participate in planting 10 apple trees on our playground, building 12 bird-houses to install on our O.L.E. campus, and installing 2 free little libraries outside of our school. In addition to these great projects they wrote letters to the community, hosted a guest speaker about composting, created signs to put on the paper towel dispensers to remind everyone to use it sparingly.

### O.L.E.. 2015 - 2016 School Year Team:

- 664 Students
- 40+ Teachers, Staff & Administrators
- 27 Classrooms
- Kindergarten-3rd Grade

"I read the sign on the paper towel holder, and I only used two pumps because I love trees."

Clark, 2nd grade

"We are small, but we can do big"

Chloe, 3rd grade

"They are just so into this green school thing that I think we are going to have to start composting at home!"

Parent of Gracie &  
Kylee, 3rd Grade





## 2015-2016 Timeline of Activities

Looked at a map of a community to find positive things happening in the community along with



Brainstormed mini projects



Purchase and organize a recycling center



Planting 10 Apple Trees

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

Invited Sarah Coleman visited our room to talk about how to become a green school.



Earned \$410 by writing letters to the community.

Poetry and Recycle Earth Day Challenge.

Building Bird Houses

### Skills learned:

- Civic & Community Responsibility
- Persuasive Writing
- Public Issues
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Composting
- Teamwork & Giving

