

Sustainability & Environmental Education Internship – School Waste Program

Are you obsessed with closing the loop on the trash system? Do your friends depend on you to tell them what is recyclable and what goes in the trash bin? Would you like to empower the next generation of environmental enthusiasts? Then Aurora Public School's Energy and Sustainability Department (ESD) is looking for you. Located in Aurora, the ESD is calling for waste gurus to help implement the district's very first *Composting in the Cafeteria* Program to Elementary schools.

Aurora Public Schools is home to more than 41,000 students who represent more than 130 diverse countries from around the world. Through a cutting edge BuildingOS technology system, every school is equipped with real time data to track utility use and resource consumption. Each one of the district's 60 schools is as unique as the next one. We seek talented, open-minded, and independently driven interns who crave learning new skills and aren't afraid to lay the groundwork for a successful *Composting in the Cafeteria* Program.

As an intern you will get to work with a variety of our students and school staff, while being given the sole responsibility of rolling out a school(s) composting program. Your work will directly impact our district and help it to become more sustainable and resource conscious.

Our ideal candidate is someone who walks into a school and can't leave without making a few friends. Someone who is the authority on the local waste stream and can command attention to teach on the importance of composting in front of hungry elementary school kids with a limited attention span.

Learning Opportunities:

1. How to design and set up a composting program in an Elementary school cafeteria setting.
2. How to develop and implement best practices related to school needs to roll out successful composting program in perpetuity.
3. Hands-on experiences centered on a systems-thinking approach to trash, recyclables, and compost.
4. Create, support, and foster opportunities to educate and empower elementary school students and staff about local waste stream.
5. Real world opportunities to conduct a variety of analyses: cost-benefit, SWOT, and Community-Based Social Marketing with school district in mind.
6. Access to and professional development of Lucid Design Group's BuildingOS technology system to track data and report progress to stakeholders.
7. Create compelling content that will be shared with district employees and community about school's progress with program.
8. Plenty of additional opportunities in related projects.

Specifications:

1. The ideal candidate must be available between the hours of 11am-1:30pm or 3:00pm-5:00pm or a combination of the two times, at least two days per week, Monday through Friday.
2. Must have own transportation.

3. Strong communication skills, verbal and written, including Public Speaking are a must.
4. Background in Sustainability, Environmental Science, Project-based Learning Modules, Marketing, Communication, and ninja-like reflexes are not required, but highly encouraged and welcomed.
5. Proficient in Word, Excel, Power Point, and Google Programs, specifically Google Drive, are not required, but highly desired.
6. The ideal candidate will have strong organizational skills and an ability to improvise in challenging situations.
7. Creative and flexible.
8. Interest in K-12 education, again, not required but certainly welcomed.

The APS Energy and Sustainability Department values all of our interns and will go the extra mile to make sure you receive a learning experience that fits your career goals. You will become extremely knowledgeable in project management related to designing and implementing a composting program for Elementary Schools. You will also learn how to work in a professional environment and have ample opportunities to network with department leaders and other professionals in public school sustainability field.

Details:

The position begins the first week of August 2016 with a kick off training and welcome meeting, which will include a summary of the pilot schools for the Fall semester. The internship will end the first week of December 2016. Successful and interested candidates can carry their internship over to the Spring Semester, as needed.

To apply, please submit your cover letter and resume with "Compost Candidate" in the subject line to Julie North at jenorth@aps.k12.co.us

Ideal candidates will be notified via email for a follow up interview.