

Sustainable Practices

Using our Sustainability Strategic Plan as a rubric for accomplishment, we are proud to be able to highlight these sustainable practices in our school community:

- Student led and supported recycling crews
- Student led crews composting our kitchen and dining waste
- Active recycling throughout the community
- Integrated use of a portion of our land for Community Supported Agricultural farming
- Strategies to preserve and restore the existing natural habitats of Happy Valley
- Integration of “green” architectural design features into all new structures
- Active pursuit of renewable energy resources for school energy needs
- Integration of small scale grid connected and grid free solar energy systems
- Integration of year long freshmen Place- Based Environmental Science course emphasizing Principles of Sustainability
- Local resource purchasing for food services
- Strategic integration of a portion of school landscape to include useful and edible plants
- No toxic chemical use for landscaping or farming purposes
- Completion of a baseline energy use survey to measure future energy efficiency strategies
- Student involvement in regional sustainability conferences
- School participation in yearly “Green Cup Challenge,” with GSA members to create significant energy reduction in the month of February

Sustainability Education will come to play an increasingly critical role in our schools primarily because it is an educational curriculum designed to model a creative vision for positive change and hope for future generations of students. This is an educational movement that resonates with the natural and cultural resources of Besant Hill School: resources that, for generations, have combined to offer our students a perfect opportunity to develop an experiential awareness for environmental principles, while providing them the framework for envisioning the prospect of a sustainable future.