THE GREEN SCHOOLS ALLIANCE

The GSA is a global network of PreK-12 schools represented by Sustainability Coordinators: faculty, staff, and students working together to solve climate and conservation challenges.
GSA MISSION

The Green Schools Alliance connects and empowers PreK-12 schools to lead the transformation to global environmental sustainability.
The Green Schools Alliance was launched in 2007 on World Environment Day to address our pressing climate and conservation challenges. In response to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report and the C40 Cities’ challenge to reduce carbon emissions and resource consumption, a GSA Climate Commitment was drafted by founding member schools.
WHO IS THE GSA?

Created by schools for schools, GSA is the ONLY worldwide network of schools guiding schools to address climate & conservation challenges and solutions.
WHO IS THE GSA?

GSA Members are schools who:

- CONNECT locally and globally, to share best practices and maximize scalability;
- INTEGRATE education and action to address 21st century climate & conservation challenges;
- DEMONSTRATE their schools’ power as learning labs that engage and inspire individuals; and
- PREPARE the next generation to become global sustainability leaders in their community.
THE GSA MOVEMENT

- Connects more than 3,000 schools
- Engages 2 million+ students
- Reaches 42 U.S. States, 28 countries...

and is growing daily!
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENT

Set goals, take action, monitor and share progress along GSA’s Sustainability Tracks:

- **Track I:** Reduce Our Ecological & Climate Impact
- **Track II:** Educate & Engage Our Community
- **Track III:** Connect To Place & Nature
GSA Member School Profile Pages enable schools to:

(1) Set goals, measure progress & share best practices with other schools

(2) Learn about other schools locally, nationally and globally

(3) Record and report accomplishments
GREEN SCHOOLS ALLIANCE PROGRAMS
GSA PROGRAMS

I. The Climate Commitment
II. Peer-to-Peer On Line Community
III. Green Cup Challenge: Energy, Water & Recycling/Diversion
IV. GSAx Events
V. Student Climate & Conservation Congress (Sc3) & Sc3 Corps
VI. Green Schools Renewable Energy Purchasing Consortium

L-R: Sc3 pond study; Dr. Syliva Earle at Sc3
A Commitment signed by the Head of School at one of the following signatory levels:

- **Climate Champion**: Reduce my school’s carbon footprint by at least 30% within 5 years, and achieve Carbon Neutrality by 2020.

- **Climate Steward**: Calculate my school’s carbon footprint by establishing an energy and carbon emissions baseline. Achieve carbon reductions over time.
PEER-TO-PEER ONLINE COMMUNITY

GSA’s unique crowd-sourced website enables Member Schools and Student Clubs to upload and search content by topic, location, type of school, and more.

Submit school-created curriculum, local resources, calendar events, news & articles, videos & photos, documents, PPTs, and more.
RESOURCE CENTER

- Member School and Partner Curricula
- SMART Schools Toolkit ®
- Make the Case: Presentations
- Connecting: Getting the Word Out
GREEN CUP CHALLENGE

► One-month inter-school challenge
► Created by schools
► Measure & Reduce: energy, recycling & water
► Celebrates aggregated & individual success
► Everyone wins

L to R: GCC Video Challenge submissions; students reading a meter.
GREEN CUP ENERGY CHALLENGE

- NYC Energy Challenge October 2-30, 2013
- 2012 Results: 112 schools, 5.3% avg. reduced electricity use, savings, 1.5 million kWh of electricity conserved and over 2.5 million pounds of CO2 prevented
GREEN CUP RECYCLE CHALLENGE

- November 4 - December 6, 2013
- Reduce waste and recycle right
- Over 100 schools
- Over 2/3 schools showed improvement
The Sc3 Congress and Corps empower outstanding student environmental leaders with the skills, knowledge and tools necessary to address natural resource conservation challenges and better serve their schools and communities.
GSAX EVENTS

BUILDING A GRASSROOTS PEER-TO-PEER NETWORK

- **UNITE** local community through school-hosted events
- **BUILD** commitment through “schools guiding schools”
- **SHARE** greening experience & expertise with each other
- **CONNECT** with corporate, government & NGO resources
- **COLLABORATE** to set & meet shared and individual goals
- **ATTEND** sustainability education & resource workshops
STUDENT CLIMATE & CONSERVATION CONGRESS

- Partnership: U.S. FWS and NCTC
- Timeline: One week each June
- Participants: More than 125 students, 25 faculty and expert speakers
- Deliverable: year long Student Sustainability Action Plans (SSAPs)
- Evaluation: University of MN study
STUDENT CLIMATE & CONSERVATION CONGRESS

- Students complete SSAPs
- Student Fellows become part of the Corps
GLOBAL STUDENT CLIMATE & CONSERVATION CORPS (SC3)

How Student Clubs can join:

(1) Login to the GSA Student Club Registry
(2) Take action along the GSA Sustainability Action Tracks
(3) Share your club’s progress with other clubs worldwide
(4) Search and find other clubs
THE GREEN SCHOOLS RENEWABLE ENERGY PURCHASING CONSORTIUM

• Enable schools to purchase renewable energy in a simple & efficient manner
• Ensure that schools are receiving competitively priced Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)
• Provide schools with resources to educate their stakeholders & community about renewable energy
• Demonstrate leadership within the K-12 educational community
• Establish a standard that will influence and guide the use of renewable energy in schools across the country
Through demand aggregation & administrative efficiencies, TOGETHER schools can:

- Accelerate the adoption of renewable energy by K-12 schools
- Demonstrate sustainability leadership
22 schools signed a Non-Binding Statement of Intent

Request for Proposal (RFP) Responses are due January 6, 2014.

Webinar: January 24, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. EST

The consortium will be continued and expanded in 2014 and beyond.

Learn More:

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"Linking with GSA has added valuable leverage to our Green effort. We've gained momentum thanks to the resources and expertise within the GSA Network, and the power of joining this movement now holds us to our commitment."

Tod Cossairt
Sc3 Faculty and Sustainability Coordinator, Besant Hill School, Ojai CA
GSA U.S. S CA Regional Coordinator
GSA PARTNERS

- National Conservation Training Center (NCTC)
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Dr. R. K. Pachauri and The Energy Resources Institute
- Zayed Future Energy Prize
- U. S. EPA Green Power Partnership and ENERGY STAR
- Other strategic NGO and corporate partnerships
GET INVOLVED WITH THE GSA!

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