









# ILLINOIS GREEN SCHOOLS PROJECT

The Illinois Green Schools Project is a year-long sustainability initiative designed for K-12 schools state-wide. Students, teachers, and staff form a green team and meet regularly to design and implement no-to low-cost sustainable practices in their school.



## Project Timeline:

-  **Aug 18, 2023**  
School Registration Opens
-  **Sept 6, 2023**  
Mentor Registration Opens
-  **Sept 29, 2023**  
Registration Closes
-  **Oct 19, 2023**  
Attend the Kick-Off
-  **Oct 27, 2023**  
Mentor Orientation
-  **Jan 26, 2024**  
Mini Grant Application Due
-  **Apr 26, 2024**  
Final Project Due
-  **May 22, 2024**  
Virtual Celebration Event

## Gain access to tools and support:

**Get assigned a personal Green Schools Mentor**

**Apply for a Mini Grant of up to \$500 to help cover project costs**

**Sign up for a free subscription to Learning Lab**

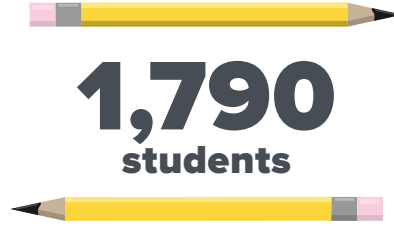
**Earn a Green Classroom Professional Certificate**

**Register now:**  
[bit.ly/GreenSchoolsIllinois](https://bit.ly/GreenSchoolsIllinois)

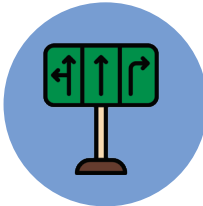


## 2022-23 Project Impact

Last school year, faculty, staff, and community members from 40 schools participated in the third cohort of the Illinois Green Schools Project.



12 schools emphasized **schoolwide waste reduction** in their projects.

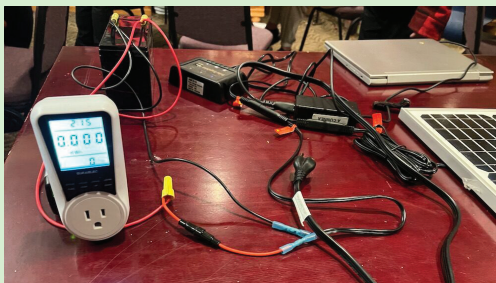


16 schools undertook projects directly related to the program's theme: **"Path to Net Zero."**



### Zero Waste Lunch

St. Joseph School started a new club that worked on building green habits and developing a zero waste lunch. Working with their mentor, the students and staff champions built new waste stations and ran an awareness campaign for composting and lunch choices.



### Solar Powered Classrooms

Students at Grace Holistic Center for Education built solar charging stations for their classrooms, which required them to learn how to read, monitor, and understand energy usage through Multimeters and Kilowatts Meters. The solar charging stations were used to power Chromebooks, which helped reduce costs, save energy, and improve air quality in the classrooms.

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My favorite part of the Illinois Green Schools Project was **seeing the beautiful collaboration between students, teachers, mentors, and administrators...** what a powerful lesson it is to see how everybody working together towards a common goal — an important goal like sustainability — how much can truly be achieved.

**Cindy Wong**, Oak Park River Forest High School Teacher