



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION  
Washington, D.C. 20240

DEC 09 2011

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## Memorandum

To: All BIE School Principals  
All Education Line Officers  
All Associate Deputy Directors

From: *Keith Moore* Keith Moore, Director  
Bureau of Indian Education

*Jaquelyn M. Cheek*

Subject: Green Ribbon Schools Announcement

On September 29, 2011, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) opened the pilot year of the Green Ribbon Schools award to recognize the highest performing green schools in the nation. I am pleased to announce that the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) intends to participate in ED's Green Ribbon Schools initiative in 2012. The award will provide national recognition to schools for exemplary achievement and considerable progress toward the three pillars established in the program: 1) energy efficient buildings; 2) healthy students and school environment; and 3) environmental literacy of all graduates.

In a few days, the BIE will issue guidance inviting all BIE-funded schools the opportunity to apply for the Green Ribbon Schools award. Currently, 35 state education agencies (including the BIE) have submitted their intent to participate in Green Ribbon Schools initiative to ED. Each state education agency and the BIE are allowed to submit up to four nominations for the award to ED. Public and private academic institutions will be applying for the program through their respective participating state education agencies.

### BIE Green Ribbon Schools timeline (Adapted from the ED website).

December 2011:	BIE issues notification of intent to participate to ED, public and schools.
January 2011:	BIE issues school application and guidelines for soliciting and selecting nominees for submission to ED.
January 2012:	BIE hosts Green Ribbon Schools Training and Dialogue Session (webinar) for all BIE-funded schools. Pre-register for the session today! (See registration instructions on the next page)
February 2012:	Deadline for schools to submit their application to BIE for nomination.
February - March 2012:	BIE convenes review committee reviews applications against eligibility requirements and ED criteria.
March 22, 2012:	Review committee selects and submits up to 4 nominees to ED for the Green Ribbon Schools recognition award.
April 2012:	ED verifies that nominees meet eligibility requirements and have been evaluated against ED criteria. ED, with assistance from EPA, then reviews and rates schools based on eligibility criteria.
May 2012:	ED hosts recognition award ceremony.

Start preparing today!

BIE-funded schools are encouraged to:

- 1) Become familiar with the Green Ribbon Schools initiative! View information and resources on the official ED Green Ribbon Schools website at [www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools).
- 2) Start accessing resources to help your school meet benchmarks in the three pillar areas. See attached listed of resources provided by ED to get started.
- 4) Register now for the BIE sponsored Green Ribbon Schools Training and Dialogue Session, to be held by webinar on January 11, 2011 at 3 P.M. (Eastern Standard Time). Interested participants can register in one of the following ways:

- [CLICK HERE](#)<sup>i</sup> to register for the “BIE Green Ribbon Schools Training and Dialogue Session” (electronic viewing only);
- Type the following web address:  
<https://dcma100.webex.com/dcma100/k2/j.php?ED=159405642&UID=1169800027&RT=MiM2&FM=1> and follow the instructions for registering;
- Visit the BIE training website at <https://dcma100.webex.com>, click on “Live Sessions”, click on the date “January 11, 2011”, click on “BIE Green Ribbon Schools Training and Dialogue Session”, follow instructions for registering; or
- Register by phone with Brandi Sweet, Program Analyst, at (202) 208-5504 (Leave name, school and contact information).

For immediate questions regarding the BIE Green Ribbon Schools initiative, email [greenribbonschools@bie.edu](mailto:greenribbonschools@bie.edu) or contact Ms. Sweet at (202) 208-5504.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Attachment

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[https://dcma100.webex.com/mw0306l/mywebex/default.do?service=7&nomenu=true&main\\_url=%2Ftc0505l%2Ftrainingcenter%2Floading.do%3Fsiteurl%3Ddcma100%26rnd%3D8156882845%26servicename%3DTC%26RT%3DMiM2%26FM%3D1%26ED%3D159405642%26UID%3D1169800027%26needFilter%3Dfalse&siteurl=dcma100](https://dcma100.webex.com/mw0306l/mywebex/default.do?service=7&nomenu=true&main_url=%2Ftc0505l%2Ftrainingcenter%2Floading.do%3Fsiteurl%3Ddcma100%26rnd%3D8156882845%26servicename%3DTC%26RT%3DMiM2%26FM%3D1%26ED%3D159405642%26UID%3D1169800027%26needFilter%3Dfalse&siteurl=dcma100)



## **RESOURCES FOR GREEN SCHOOLS**

This page is designed to make Green Ribbon School resources easier to find. It is offered as a convenience for schools, teachers, parents and students. The U.S. Department of Education does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, completeness or effectiveness of outside resources. The inclusion of particular resources is not intended to reflect their importance, nor is it intended to endorse any views expressed or products or services. *It is a work in progress, updated regularly.*

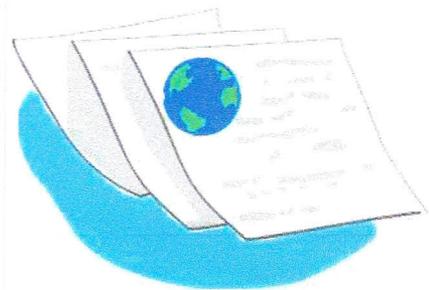
U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools acknowledges that each school situation is different and, as such, the means for achieving Green Ribbon goals, including energy efficiency, cost effectiveness, environmental health, occupant wellness and effective environmental education, will be varied. We list a variety of governmental and non-governmental resources below to assist schools, administrators, educators, parents and students in locating some of the tools they will need to move toward sustainable school status. Interested parties may also wish to consult the existing state and internationally-based green schools programs. An initial list of these can be found at the bottom of this resources page.

### **I. Environmental Impact and Energy Efficiency Resources**

Through Green Ribbon Schools, the Department of Education will recognize schools that take exemplary steps toward reducing environmental impact, achieving energy efficiencies and other sustainability measures. *The following are some examples of resources to support energy efficient and sustainable facilities:*

#### **ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY**

- [DOE EnergySmart Schools](#)
- [DOE and EPA ENERGY STAR for K-12 School Districts](#)
- [DOE America's Home Energy Education Challenge](#)
- [DOE Purchasing Specifications for Energy Efficient Products](#)
- [EPA Guidelines for Energy Management Overview](#)
- [DOE State Energy Program](#)
- [EPA WaterSense](#)
- [Do Something](#)



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### ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

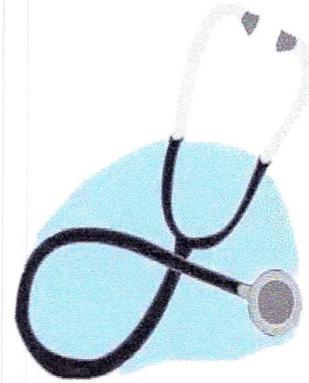
- [DOT Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety](#)
- [Safe Routes to Schools](#)
- [International Walk to School Month](#)
- [Walking School Bus](#)

### RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- [EPA WasteWise](#)
- [EPA Reducing Risk From Hazardous Waste](#)
- [CDC Hazardous Waste Self-Management Checklist](#)
- [EPA Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools](#)
- [Keep America Beautiful Recycle-Bowl](#)

### BUILDING DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE

- [USGBC Center for Green School Resources](#)
- [Collaborative for High Performance Schools](#)
- [American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Green Standard](#)
- [Green Building Initiative Green Globes](#)



## II. Healthy School Environments Resources

Through Green Ribbon Schools, the Department of Education will recognize schools that take exemplary steps toward improving indoor and outdoor environmental health and building occupant wellness. *The following are some examples of resources to support healthier schools:*

### AIR QUALITY PRESERVATION

- [EPA Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools](#)
- [EPA Assessing Outdoor Air Near Schools](#)
- [EPA Clean School Bus USA](#)
- [EPA Healthy Schools Environments Assessment Tool](#)
- [EPA Managing Asthma in Schools](#)
- [CDC Tools for Making Your School Asthma-Friendly](#)
- [Green Education Foundation Healthy Schools Questionnaire & Audit](#)

### CONTAMINANT MANAGEMENT

- [EPA Buy Clean](#)
- [EPA Integrated Pest Management for Schools](#)
- [EPA Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign](#)
- [EPA Radon Information](#)
- [CDC Guidelines for School Health Programs to Prevent Tobacco Use](#)

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- [EPA Managing Asbestos in Schools](#)
- [EPA Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting in Schools](#)
- [EPA Proper Maintenance, Removal and Disposal of PCB-Containing Lights](#)
- [CDC Underground Storage Tank Self-Inspection Checklist](#)
- [EPA Schools and Mercury](#)
- [EPA Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings](#)
- [Green Cleaning for Healthy Schools](#)

### **NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS**

- [The First Lady's Let's Move!](#)
- [The President's Challenge](#)
- [USDA Farm to School Program](#)
- [HealthierUS School Challenge](#)
- [EPA Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities](#)
- [CNCS: Expand Access to Healthy Local Food](#)
- [Partnership for A Healthier America](#)
- [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#)
- [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation PreventObesity](#)
- [Green Thumb Challenge](#)
- [Healthy Schools Campaign, School Food and Fitness](#)
- [National Healthy Schools Day](#)

## **III. Environmental and Sustainability Education Resources**

Through Green Ribbon Schools, The Department of Education will recognize schools that take exemplary steps toward producing environmentally literate graduates through an integrated, standards-driven approach that bolsters academic achievement. *The following are some examples of resources to support effective environmental and sustainability education:*



### **TEACHING AND LEARNING ENERGY CONSERVATION**

- [EPA Student's Guide to Global Climate Change](#)
- [DOE EnergyKids](#)
- [EPA Climate Change: What You Can Do At School](#)
- [EPA Energy Star Join the Fight Against Climate Change](#)
- [DOE H2 Educate](#)
- [Green Energy Challenge](#)
- [Project Earth](#)

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION**

- [ED Federal Resources for Educational Excellence, Environment](#)

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- [NOAA Climate Services: Education](#)
- [NOAA B-WET](#)
- [EPA Environmental Education Grants](#)
- [EPA Teacher Resources and Lesson Plans](#)
- [EPA President's Environmental Youth Awards](#)
- [Nature Net Educational Resources](#)
- [US Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development](#)
- [National Education for Sustainability K-12 Student Learning Standards](#)
- [Project Learning Tree's Green Schools!](#)
- [Facing the Future's Curriculum and Lesson Finder](#)
- [Alliance for Climate Education](#)
- [Green Education Foundation Sustainability Education Clearinghouse](#)
- [National Resources Defense Council Green Squad](#)
- [Kids for Saving the Earth Program List](#)

#### DEVELOP STEM CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

- [White House Educate to Innovate](#)
- [DOE STEM Teacher Development](#)
- [Change the Equation](#)
- [STEM Connector](#)

#### CONNECTING TO LOCAL OUTDOORS

- [National Park Service Education Resources](#)
- [Fish and Wildlife Service Schoolyard Habitats](#)
- [USDA Agriculture In the Classroom](#)
- [School Garden Wizard](#)
- [Climate Change Wildlife and Wildlands Toolkit for Formal and Informal Educators](#)

## IV. State Resources

Green Ribbon Schools recognizes the work already being done at the state and local level to reduce environmental impact, improve health and graduate environmentally literate citizens. *The following are examples of resources available through state green schools programs to assist with implementation of energy efficiency, healthy school environment and environmental education programs.*

- [California Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education](#)
- [Missouri Children in Nature Challenge](#)
- [Every Child Outdoors Tennessee](#)
- [Texas Green Ribbon Schools](#)
- [Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs](#)
- [Florida Department of Environmental Protection](#)

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- [Environmental Education in Georgia](#)
- [Idaho Department of Environmental Quality](#)
- [Illinois Environmental Protection Agency: Green School Programs](#)
- [Illinois Resource Guide for Healthy, High Performing School Buildings](#)
- [Indiana Department of Environmental Management](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Program](#)
- [Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools](#)
- [Massachusetts School Building Authority](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection](#)
- [Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education](#)
- [Minnesota Department of Health – Healthy Environment Program](#)
- [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: Green Building for Schools Guide for Change \(Minnesota\)](#)
- [New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection](#)
- [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation: Green Schools](#)
- [New York’s Green Cleaning Program](#)
- [North Carolina Office of Environmental Literacy and Public Affairs](#)
- [Oregon Green Schools](#)
- [Virginia Recycling Association](#)
- [Washington Green Schools](#)
- [Washington Education for Environment and Sustainability](#)
- [Wisconsin Green & Healthy Schools Program](#)

## V. Regional and International Resources

Green Ribbon Schools recognizes the work already being done at the regional and international level to reduce environmental impact, improve health and graduate environmentally literate citizens. *The following are examples of resources available through regional and international green schools programs to assist with implementation of energy efficiency, healthy school environment and environmental education programs.*

- [Green Education Foundation: International Green Schools Programs](#)
- [Foundation for Environmental Education: Eco-Schools Program](#)
- [North American Association for Environmental Education](#)

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