



SERT FLASH

School Energy and Recycling Team

No Outdoor Recess? No Problem Work on Your SERT Watt's Up Poster



Cold winter days can mean days of indoor recess. Why not turn this challenge into an opportunity for your students and staff to enter the 2016 SERT Watt's Up Poster Contest? This year's theme is "SERT In Our Schools." The due date is April 15, 2016.

The SERT Watts Up? Poster Contest offers an opportunity for all MCPS students and staff members to showcase their school's sustainability efforts. Illustrate how your school makes wise decisions with its energy use, recycling, and water conservation. Please note that submissions may be hand-drawn or produced through digital art (Photoshop, InDesign, etc.).

- Energy may be the single most important environmental issue of our time. All environmental issues are related to energy – air and water quality, global climate change, waste management, and transportation.
- Share how your school recycles. Each of us can make a great impact on the earth by recycling. Recycling saves energy and precious raw materials. Recycling paper, glass, aluminum, plastic, and many other items can make a real difference.

This is a wonderful opportunity to use your visual art talents to communicate your ideas on how your school uses less energy and increases recycling to make MCPS a greener place to learn.

For additional information on the SERT Watt's Up Poster contest click [here](#)

Contact SERT@mcpsmd.org with your conservation strategies so we can "Flash" your school!

MCPS SERT Program

Dept. of Facilities Management
45 W. Gude Drive Suite 4000
Rockville, MD 20850
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301-279-3005, fax

February, 2016



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School Energy and Recycling Team

Bells Mill ES hosts their Third Annual Bin Decorating Contest

If you have ever walked the hallways of Bells Mill Elementary School, you would instantly realize that they take recycling very seriously. There are posters, bins, and labels throughout the building. Although recycling is an everyday routine for the Bells Mill Bears, they get extremely excited for the recycling contest that has taken place on Earth Day the past three years.



On Earth Day, April 22nd, every class designed and decorated their classroom recycling bins with recycled or reused materials. Each bin has a theme: some are decorated as minions from the movie "Despicable Me" while others are dressed up as a bear family .



Once the bins are designed and created, each class puts their bin in the hallway. Each class is allowed to take a tour of the school and admire the great artwork by their peers and classmates. A vote is taken and the winner is announced by the end of the day!

When asked how this contest aligns with Curriculum 2.0, SERT Team Leader and 2nd Grade Teacher, Lindsay Wilkes says, "This contest is completely student driven. They collect their materials throughout the month to use toward creating their bin. They problem solve and collaborate as they work together to plan and create! Often this takes trial and error – and a lot of creativity!" Unique and creative ideas like this help raise awareness on resource conservation and is one of the many reasons why Bells Mill ES became a 2014 Maryland Green School. Great job Bears!



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May 2014
Bells Mill ES

SERT Flash

Indoor Recess Again?

Turn a Challenge into an Opportunity



After many long winter days of indoor recess, are you looking for a new activity for your students? Why not participate in the SERT Watt's Up Poster Contest?

The theme for the poster contest this year is “Conservation: Energy, Water and Recycling.”

Posters selected for printing will include the student or staff member’s name and school/office. This year, participants will have the option to create posters in different languages. Students and staff could explore and demonstrate the importance of conservation in English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Korean, Vietnamese, and Amharic. Winning entries will be exhibited in a gallery showing at the Rockville Library this summer.

The Watt’s Up poster contest is open to all MCPS staff or students in grades K–12. The theme of each entry should encourage others to conserve energy and water and to recycle responsibly.

The due date is extended to Friday, April 4th. More information is available [here](#).