

Part IV: Commitment Letter #1

Letter of Commitment from the PTA

The Cedar Grove PTA will enthusiastically support the GreenKids program if awarded. We have recently allocated \$500 for the development of the new science lab, and will continue to support this endeavor. The PTA is excited to assist in funding supplies, space and stipends to educators to meet the goals of the GreenKids program. The PTA is able to enhance the visibility of the program in the school community through co-hosting events, sharing PTA meeting time and written promotion in the monthly newsletter. In addition, we are available to help with staffing needs through our strong volunteer program. The PTA Beautification Committee is available to assist the program in readying and maintaining outside space as needed, and will work with them to include green practices in our current landscape renovations. We will provide a venue for communication and education within our school cluster and assist with outreach to students, families and the greater community.

Janet Kukla Signature Submitted Electronically
PTA Vice President

Part IV: Commitment Letter #2

Letter of Commitment from Teachers

Cedar Grove has the advantage of having an enthusiastic core group of teachers who have high expectations for implementing environmental education in all content areas. Our goal is to ensure that environmental issues and concerns permeate decisions and choices made by all in our school community. In order to change the culture of the entire community, we feel that acceptance in the *GreenKids* Program will enhance the campaign which was started on the first day teachers returned for the 2009/2010 school year (see Part II, #3* of the application). We bring many resources and experiences to reach our goal:

- Our school's website is an excellent example of incorporating technology, research, and the environment and making it available to our students and their families. A sampling:
 - ✓ <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cedargrovees/mediacen/BayLab.htm>
 - ✓ <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cedargrovees/mediacen/Chesapeake.htm>
 - ✓ <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cedargrovees/mediacen/biomes.htm>
 - ✓ <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cedargrovees/mediacen/Weather.htm>
 - ✓ <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cedargrovees/Gr%204/Gr4.html>
- We have attended Professional Development classes and have shared our experiences and new knowledge. These include:
 - ✓ EE-02 Teaching Techniques for Outdoor Education
 - ✓ EE-07 Basic Subject Matter for Outdoor Education
 - ✓ Teachable Science through Audubon Naturalist Society
 - ✓ Training through the Patuxent Research Refuge
 - ✓ MAEOE Conference
 - ✓ <http://www.cbf.org/Page.aspx?pid=1415>
- Our Science Lead Teacher has been trained (and has shared the training with our staff) in Inquiry Based Science and has organized a Science Expo in which all students may participate.
- The 5th Grade Book Club will be using the Eco-themed The Evolution Of Calpurnia Tate (Jacqueline Kelly) as the book choice.

Our involvement forms a strong foundation on which to build. We believe that the *GreenKids* Program will provide the 'third-party' catalyst often needed in close-knit groups to bring about the embracement and cultural change we hope to achieve.

Lori Rolston: 4th Grade Teacher, Lead Science Teacher Signature Electronically Submitted

Karina Hirschhorn: Media Specialist Signature Electronically Submitted

Claire Gardner: 2nd Grade Teacher Signature Electronically Submitted

Part IV: Commitment Letter #3



I am writing in enthusiastic support of Cedar Grove Elementary School's application for the *GreenKids* program for the 2010-2011 school year. I believe that the structure and content of the program will enable our school to capitalize on our existing environmental education efforts, expand them to include all staff, students, and families, as well as community partners, and increase the level of stewardship and civil action practiced by our school. We currently have a very dedicated and passionate core group of staff that is working hard to promote environmentalism through outdoor learning experiences, curriculum connections, and conservation programs, in addition to their regular teaching duties. I have supported their efforts in a variety of ways, including the provision of time, space, and funds, personal advocacy and promotion, and through my own sponsorship and coordination of environmental clubs and projects. I am strongly committed to continuing this level of support and to using my leadership role to drive the efforts forward. The activities, training, and expertise that are part of the *GreenKids* program are just what we need to take our work in this area to a higher, more pervasive level, and I look forward to participating in such a valuable program.

Lee F. Derby
Principal
Signature submitted electronically

Part IV: Commitment Letter #4

Letter of Commitment from Building Services

The members of the Cedar Grove Building Services team agree to support the efforts of the school community in its goal to reach Green School Status through the guidance of the GreenKids Program. We will support the staff and students in their recycling efforts at lunch and in the classroom. We will support Cedar Grove's SERT team. We will support the school's commitment to developing resources to support environmental learning by offering advice and assistance when available. We will support the school's efforts to emphasize resource conservation by alerting the proper facilities operators of leaks, and heating/cooling issues. We will offer contacts through MCPS to assist in making the goals a reality.

Gary Coeburn Signature submitted electronically
Building Service Manager

Tracey Greene Signature submitted electronically
Building Service Night Leader

Part IV: Commitment Letter # 5

Letter of Commitment from Students

My name is Catie Ladas and I am the President of the Cedar Grove Student Government. The SGA wants to support our goal to become a Green School. Our SGA has donated \$500 from our fund raisers to help buy materials for our science lab. At our SGA meetings, we will share ideas of how to help the SERT team by recycling and saving electricity. The homeroom representatives will take the ideas back to their classmates. That way, everyone is helping.

Catie Ladas Signature submitted electronically

I think more kids should experiment with making model eco-systems. If our school becomes a GreenKids School, we would have more kids able to do this. They would be having so much fun while they were learning. Then more kids would learn how to take care of the environment and learn what helps it and hurts it.

Kaitlin Campos Signature submitted electronically