



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Agency/Organization Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1st 2009

Name of Agency/Organization: Monroe County School District

Keys wide

City/Island

Name of Applicant and relation to Agency/Org: Pedro Fraga - Ex. Dir. Business Serv.

Summary

We are pleased that kids, teachers and community advocates find their voices for a healthy future through our schools. We are ambassadors to the future and we hope our students will internalize healthy living skills through our strong academic programs and initiatives. As an organization we hope to lead by example not only because it is the right thing to do but because our children's future depends on it!

Part 1: The Keyswide Sustain-Ability Project

GLEE's Goal: Involve all major policy makers in the Keys in systematic emissions reductions & conservation actions. Involving all 6 municipalities, 3 utilities, federal, state and local agencies, non-profits, mentor governments from the mainland, and other national resources, the Keyswide Sustain-Ability Project (KSAP) aims to meet quarterly, researching and convening experts on subjects requested by its participants. The projects strengths include economy of scale, cross pollination of ideas and collaboration on new projects and funding opportunities.

- My Ag/Org is not currently a KSAP member, but we do intend to and can check off some KSAP tenets.
- My Ag/Org is not currently a KSAP member, and will probably not become one.
- I am a KSAP member, but I do intend to become one

The KSAP checklist:

- Adopt [Mayors Climate Protection Agreement tenets](#) (date signed): _____
- Establish a Green Team, & Staff liaison: Liaison & Team Names: [Pedro Fraga. Each school has a team*](#)
- Hold monthly Green Team meetings: # of Meetings Held: _____
- Develop a baseline of emissions: Date Began, Completed: _____
- Create an action plan: Date Began, Completed, Acted on: _____
- Participate in quarterly KSAP meetings: # Mtgs Attended: [MCSD Representative attends all meetings](#)

Part 2: Accomplishments

<u>Renewable Energy</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.
<p>We have a biodiesel project at Key West HS. The class purchased an old diesel Mercedes, collected used restaurant oil and has produced 250 gallons of biodiesel. They have also made soap with glycerine waste product, and will sell bars for \$5 as a fund-raiser for the project. This year the class has submitted a grant proposal for a research based, green collar learning, biodiesel plant that will meet the needs of the MCSD and run feedstock from waste veggie oil from around town and future algae feedstock.</p>	
<u>Clean Transportation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of smart, clean and economically efficient uses of biodiesel, fuel cells, and hybrid vehicles. Or no vehicles at all!
<p>Our School Busses are presently using biodiesel fuel B-20</p>	
<u>Clean Boating</u>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of eco-friendly actions whilst on the water, including cleaning products, propulsion, water conservation, fisheries conservation, catch and release techniques, and use of Florida Clean Marinas, Boatyards, and Retailers .
<p>Marine studies classes at Coral Shores HS have taken on several important projects over the years. These include transplanting coral and sea grass, water quality testing, fish counts, a new conch nursery, mapping sea floors, managing marine fish tanks, and environmental education. We opened an Environmental Science Academy at the school to expand offerings in this area.</p>	
<u>Energy Conservation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, and retrofits for financial savings and pollution reduction.
<p>Our buildings can be managed off site, timed to maintain the most appropriate temperature for energy saving purposes. This involves not letting the buildings get too hot at night, and not letting them get too cold during the day. We have experienced a 17% reduction so far this year in electric consumption.</p>	
<u>Green Building</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of green techniques and technologies during retrofits on existing buildings and efficient designs for new buildings.
<p>Plantation Key School and Horace O'Bryant Middle School will be our first official green building projects. We are following LEED design standards, and will implement all that we can afford to do. The list of green components is long, but includes such goals as healthy natural lighting, good indoor air quality, minimizing the built footprint, energy friendly landscaping, reusing/recycling waste products from the old building and many others. We are exploring the use of solar panels on the top of our older buildings to generate electric power.</p>	

<u>Green Financing</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of tax credits, rebates, and other incentive programs that help finance, sustainability projects. Also includes Socially Responsible Investing.
<p>The Coral Shores Environmental Science Academy initiated a school-wide recycling project, which includes quantifying the amount of recyclables that did not enter the waste stream. These will be reported to the board at the end of the year, to calculate the savings to our solid waste bill. We recycle cardboard at all of our centers. We have established recycling programs (paper and plastic) at 10 of our schools and we are planning on implementing a comprehensive district wide program for the 09-10 school year at all schools.</p>	
<u>Healthy Living</u>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of green procurement, green consumerism and healthy choices through buying organic foods and other non-toxic, healthy and sustainable products.
<p>We have eliminated Styrofoam trays and have replaced them with a cornstarch-based tray product. Most of the meat recipes are made with turkey meat and we serve fresh fruit a minimum of 4 days per week at all of our cafeterias.</p>	
<u>Land Conservation</u>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of conservation of natural habitats by using Keys-Friendly landscaping practices and use of GreenThumb Certified Nurseries .
<p>Key Largo School sits on a 29 acre parcel. We have a permanent construction easement on all but about 14 acres. Teachers have for years incorporated the nature trail into their science curriculum. During construction, science classes helped move endangered snails to another locale prior to expanding the bus loop behind the school.</p>	
<u>R4 #1: Reduce</u>	Demonstrated reduction of waste through bulk buying, refillable products, double-sided printing, avoiding over-packaged products, closing the loop by purchasing products made of recycled, post consumer content; implementation of policies which encourage and/or mandate waste reduction.
<p>Probably our major savings in paper has come from implementing web-based communications systems for most functions. We manage everything from personnel to budget online. Teachers, staff, and most students can communicate by email, powerpoint, and video conferencing. While technology requires a substantial capital investment and maintenance, it does reduce the paper trail. We also power down remotely at weekends and student breaks so that energy is not wasted.</p>	
<u>R4 #2: Reuse</u>	Demonstrated reuse of products, buy second hand, donate unneeded items, and avoid disposables, and share magazines /other publications before recycling them.
<p>We use class sets of textbooks which may be shared. Teachers often collaborate and share teaching materials. When we build a new school, we offer excess furniture and equipment to various community organizations.</p>	

<u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
Not at this time.	
<u>R4 #4: Recycle</u>	Demonstrated recycling of items accepted by local waste hauler and/or other items which may be recycled elsewhere (e.g., electronics, CFL light bulbs, cell phones, printer cartridges); implementation of policies which encourage and/or mandate recycling practices
We have implemented a limited recycling program for printer cartridges and electronics at some of our centers. We are partnering with Waste Management and the Middle and Upper Keys Garbage Companies to provide recycling bins for all classrooms and offices in our schools.	
<u>Water Conservation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of water use reduction through efficient irrigation, xeriscaping, cisterns, rain barrels, water audits and/or use of reclaimed water.
Whenever it becomes available at all of centers we will use reclaimed water to irrigate our athletic fields and landscape. We encourage water conservation in the maintenance of our athletic fields and irrigate by zones during the dry season.	
Water Quality	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of wastewater treatment, storm water retention, phosphorus free products, slow release fertilizers, animal waste reduction, etc.
We have closed the sewage treatment plants at two schools, to hook up with the village. A couple others will be closed as projects are completed elsewhere in the Keys.	
Youth Leadership	Involve local students in projects and research for healthy long-term choices in any of the above for the future of all.
This is a component of most of our projects; many more that I listed here.	

GLEE Participation	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's Mission and Goals .
Dr. Debra Walker will continue to act as a liaison with GLEE along with Pedro Fraga.	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!

Part 3: Other Agency/Organization Factors

Team Commitment	List staff or other supportive people on your "Green Team"
Fred Sims, Construction Program Manager Jeff Barrow, Maintenance, especially building climate control Dave Makepeace, Teacher, Marine Studies Program Green Team Members - see website at keysschools.com/greenteam	
Communications	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, locals, tourists, shareholders, customers and/or vendors?
Web-page articles, annual report, school newspapers, occasional news articles, our TV channel.	
Certifications/Memberships	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?
No.	

Part 4: Green Pledge

I certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

