

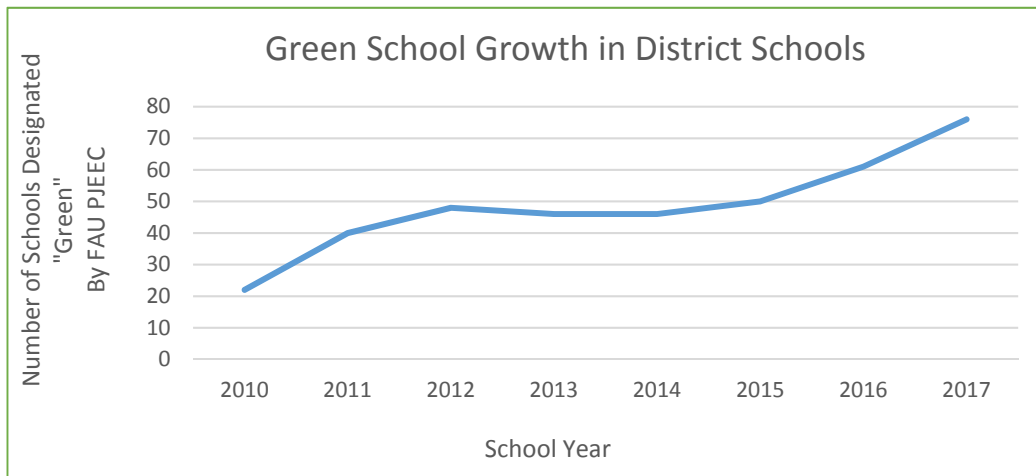
Wellness Promotion Business Plan

Fiscal Year 2017: School Sustainability a Year in Review

The District recognizes the important relationship between the health and wellness of individuals and their interaction with the natural and man-made environment. As such, the District supports and encourages students, teachers and staff to actively participate in school sustainability. This includes: outdoor and environmental education, energy and water conservation activities, waste reduction and recycling, environmentally preferable purchasing, and carbon dioxide reduction through green transportation. District sustainability initiatives depend on many departments and divisions, primary coordination occurs from the Environmental and Conservation Services Department (ECS).

One such sustainability initiative is the growth of green schools in our District. Schools are designated “green” through FAU - Pine Jog Environmental Center’s (PJEEC) *Green Schools Recognition Program (GSRP)*, which has encouraged cultures of sustainability within school communities since 2009.

The number of District schools recognized in the program has increased by 245% from 2010 to 2017. This year, ECS focused on creating awareness about the program through communications like *The Green Scene Newsletter* and in-person meetings with school officials. Over 80 sustainability related school visits, presentations and community partner meetings were conducted by ECS staff in FY 2017.



The District was also awarded a GOLD ranking in sustainability from the *Florida Green School Network*; the only school district in Florida to accomplish this for the 2016-2017 school year. Further, the District earned a Whole School Sustainability Scholarship from the U.S. Green Building Council’s *Center for Green Schools*; a \$20,000 value.

At the end of FY 2017, School Food Services issued a survey to assess the wellness activities of 202 elementary, middle and high school contacts. In the survey, respondents were asked how their school demonstrates a commitment to going green in daily school practices. According to results, recycling was the most popular way for schools to implement a sustainability initiative on campus, followed closely by energy conservation. Other activities noted include school gardens, outdoor learning and waste reduction. In FY 2017, ECS serviced schools in the areas of recycling, energy conservation, indoor air quality, water conservation and sustainability-focused curriculum in order to support school sustainability programs.

