For the past 11 years Project Green Schools (PGS) has thoughtfully worked to develop and inspire excellence in extraordinary young people and across K-12 schools with the desire to create a greener, healthier, more sustainable future. We do this through well-designed programs, practices, procedures and processes that have both stood the test of time and meet 21 century demands, all while guaranteeing impact.

Over the years PGS has watched programs and organizations thrive as well as collapse. We have watched leaders lead as well as disappoint. We have seen much. We watch. We listen. We act. We design. We redesign. We persist.

PGS has both led trends as well as followed them. We have always acted with purpose and that purpose is to create extremely high-quality environmental education learning experiences proven to shape our homes, schools, communities, and places of work.

This past year was a year of less racing and more listening. You asked for more impact, duplicatable results, and stronger career connections. We responded. You asked for meaningful hands-on, environmental experiences. We connected you and your students to unique opportunities, and we shined a bright spotlight on such actions to increase engagement at the local and regional level.

You asked for us to share your projects and to engage our community in a one of a kind, non-cookie cutter learning experience. We delivered. You asked for more scholarship opportunities for young people with a proven track record of success. We tripled such opportunities.

This past year I sat back and listened to our students and I listened to our schools. I listened to my Board of Directors and I listened to my Board of Advisors. I listened to our communities, to our leaders, to our colleagues, and I listened to my gut.

What did I learn?

I learned and witnessed firsthand that Project Green Schools is resilient. This organization is open, intelligent, mindful, fun, flexible, innovative, creative, dedicated, hard-working and ever-evolving.

I learned that we have much to learn and to give at the same time. I learned and relearned that passion, persistence, and a willingness to make change and stand your ground is sometimes all you need to make The Green Difference and I can’t wait to play out this next year with you!

Sincerely,

Robin Organ
Project Green Schools Executive Director & Founder
MISSION

Developing the next generation of environmental leaders through education, project-based learning and community service.

BELIEFS

Students must be engaged at the intersection of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), energy, environment and public health to develop: sustainable solutions, employability, college and career readiness knowledge and skills.
Spotlight on PGS Student Co-Presidents

Belle - President

· Wrote, discussed, and submitted a Water resolution for Massachusetts water week.
· Developed a plan for teachers and students to inspire them to learn about water issues locally and internationally.
· Lead youth in workshops at the Water Summit at the MA state house.
· Awarded with recognition from Senator Pacheco for her dedication to bringing awareness to the issues of water.

Harjap - President

· Helped establish contact with State government officials to develop a proclamation for a week-long celebration for environmental and sustainability education.
· He penned a draft proclamation that inspired the State’s draft proclamation for NJ Environmental and Sustainability Education Week.
· It will be the first time since 2009 that New Jersey has celebrated Environmental Education Week and it will be the first time (ever) that New Jersey would celebrate a week that recognized the importance of environmental AND sustainability education (during national environmental education week).
Green Difference Maker Scholarship sponsored by Project Green Schools & National Grid Scholarship $2,000

The Green Difference Maker Scholarship is given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated exceptional leadership on behalf of Project Green Schools. This scholarship honors impactful environmental leadership that takes place beyond the walls of a traditional school and out in our communities. This change maker has made a real difference in the lives of many, and we anticipate great things to come in this young person’s future!

Tait Rourke
Blackstone Valley Prep High School
Cumberland, Rhode Island

Gabrielle Allmendinger
Manchester Essex Regional High School, MA

Energized Future Scholarships sponsored by Current powered by GE and Project Green Schools $1,000

The Bright Future Scholarship is given to 2 graduating seniors pursuing higher education in a related area of study: Energy, Environment, Innovation, STEM, Business, Community-related area of study. The scholarship

Laura West
Ballston Spa Senior High School, NY

Allison Carter
Barnstable High, MA
Project Green Schools grows and supports student leaders.

That’s the answer to this meaningful question we asked our staff and our Board… “What outcomes make us proud?” We grow strong, confident, knowledgeable and experienced environmental leaders. That is clear. Our goal is student leadership development -- with more opportunities, in more communities, with more students, and with greater impact.

We believe that leaders are grown through experience, and we work to create those experiences. This past year Project Green Schools further built out the opportunities for our National Youth Council and our State Youth Councils.

These students are invited to participate in important regional, national and world events alongside industry, government and community leaders. This past year; students from across the United States conducted research at MarineLab in Key West, FL where they participated in the Coral Restoration Foundation Ocean Ambassador Program; at HUB Week students spoke to audiences of global innovators along with the Boston Bruins Foundation and First Lady of New Hampshire Valerie Sununu; Rhode Island students came to their State House and sat as delegates in the House Chamber, where they debated issues of energy and food policy; and more.

As we move into our next year, our goal is to expand these opportunities in North America and across the globe.

Sincerely,

Stacy Goodman
Board Chair
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MEMBERSHIP

[K-12] schools and communities. Membership provides access to Green Schools Handbook, Tool Kits, our monthly Newsletter, Partner resources, grant opportunities, and much more!

Green Schools Members learn how to implement top down and bottom up programming and policies bound to make The Green Difference!

There are multiple ways to implement Green Schools 12 Environmental Pathways into your school’s classrooms, curriculum, culture, and community. Green Schools Members have access to award-winning projects, resources, personnel, and training from across the country through our Membership program.

Green Schools provides free Membership to educators, students, schools, administrators, facilities directors, wellness coordinators, STEM coordinators, and those looking to take action when it comes to greening.
1. Atmosphere and Climate
2. Ecosystems and Biodiversity
3. Energy
4. Food and Agriculture
5. Future of Sustainability
6. Green and Healthy Schools
7. Green Living
8. Land, Air and the Natural World
9. Transportation
10. Waste Management
11. Water
12. Outdoor Learning & Exploration
A Student Recognition Program for environmentally focused students who achieve extraordinary impact in schools and communities.

K-12 students are awarded pins and certificates in recognition of their environmental service. Graduating seniors can achieve a stole following implementation of a capstone project.
Justin is one of our Outstanding Green Students from California. He is doing some amazing working averting a TOTAL amphibian meltdown with @justinsfrogproject. Frogs are expected to go extinct in the next several years due to pollution, disease, and various other factors. Their significance as environmental indicators determine the health of an ecosystem means a healthy living environment for humans, too... Without frogs, where will WE be?? Congratulations to Justin as one of our youngest Green Difference Award winners!
House Majority Leader, Joe Shekarchi, and Senior VP of Government Relations of the Greater Providence Chamber, Paul DeRoche met you Green Student Leadership Council Delegates during a statewide meeting.

Council Members pictured: Maddy (South Kingstown High), Cameron (Moses Brown), Abigail (Moses Brown) and Charlotte (Pilgrim High)

More than 50 students have been invited to be part of the Rhode Island Green Student Leadership Council, representing elementary, middle and high school students throughout the Ocean State. Students will hear from and meet with Rhode Island business, government and education leaders. The purpose of the day is to inspire the next generation of environmental leaders who will make up Rhode Island’s future “green” workforce. Students will participate in a tour of the State House and an interactive session on sustainability and citizenship with the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, RI Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Project Green Schools. Students and invited guests will also participate in a one-hour Meet & Greet session. Topics of discussion include: "Energy," and "Food Policy.

National Youth Council students in grades 5-12 are difference-makers who are invited to participate in important regional, national and world events. Students are given a seat at the table – with government, corporate and professional leaders.

Sahmir addresses students, educators, Administrators, City Officials and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Staff at the BIDMC Sustainable Youth & Public Health Summit.
Project Green Schools was thrilled to host our first Ocean Ambassador training with partners at the Coral Restoration Foundation in Key Largo, Florida. During this program, students in grades 6-12 learned about the plight of coral reef systems around the world, saw first-hand the work being done to restore the reefs, went snorkeling in the open ocean, saw reef sharks & stingrays, and even went face-to-face with some visitors of an underwater hotel located in the lagoon of our training venue (MarineLab)! They also participated in a marine debris clean-up where they picked up 88 lbs of trek in the first quarter mile of their trek alone... in only 30 minutes. Students had the opportunity to be citizen scientists when they entered their data in both Florida Microplastic Awareness Project and the Mote Marine Lab Debris databases. The weekend was a raging success and the students had a blast!
PGS collaborates with the Bridges House and forms Youth Sustainability Council for the state of New Hampshire!

Friends of Bridges House (FOBH) is the nonprofit organization charged with the care and community outreach for NH’s governor’s official residence. This unique location is perfect for nonpartisan gatherings of all kinds.

First Lady Sununu; Robin Organ of Project Green Schools; students across NH, administrators, educators and others gathered at The Bridges House to network and create a platform for access and resources in greening-up their schools and communities. The Youth Council also served as an auditing body to make sure The Bridges House set an impeccable example for sustainable events and home management. Both parties believe that the path toward a greener and more sustainable future is through community-driven projects and we were excited to provide support for future leaders and entrepreneurs through this council as well as through our Green EXPO, featuring a Shark-Tank style competition for young Green-ovators.

Prize money was awarded to 3 projects to further their efforts. Youth Council members also had opportunities to discuss their concerns about the environment with Governor Sununu, 1st Lady Valerie Sununu, leaders of government, the commissioners of Department of Education (DOE) and Department of Environmental Services (DES) Services, NH state business and community groups.

Pictured Right: Jennifer Desrosiers, Founder of Laney & Lu, Robin Organ, Founder and Executive Director of Project Green Schools, Council Member Brittney Hanright, Council Member Joseph Mitchell, 1st Lady Sununu, and Chuck Bates, SAU #13 Business Administrator and PGS Clerk
PGS teamed up with Jack Johnson

Project Green Schools was thrilled to join forces with Jack Johnson on his 2018 Tour and All At Once, a social action network connecting nonprofits with people who want to become active in their local and world community. All At Once comes to life online at www.AllAtOnce.org and at the Jack Johnson concerts where you can get educated, get inspired, and connect face-to-face with us and other local and national non-profits. All At Once promotes sustainable local food systems and plastic free initiatives and encourages action through the Capture Your Commitment campaign.

#AAOLocalFood  #AAOPlasticFree
Thank you for making The Green Difference with us in 2018. We’re looking forward to Green-o-vating with you in 2019!