Quality and quantity are the key

Quality and quantity are the keys to successful recycling programs. Paper mills need clean, sorted paper to make new products. That is why construction paper, newspaper, manila folders, and heavily dyed paper, such as red, green, golden rod and florescent colors should not be placed in your school recycling boxes.

The largest portion of the waste stream at a school is paper. As a matter of fact, the largest portion of the waste stream is paper. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in 1999, U.S. residents, businesses, and institutions produced more than 230 million tons of waste, which is approximately 4.6 pounds of waste per person per day, up from 2.7 pounds per person per day in 1960. More than 37% of the waste is paper.

Something to think about: When throwing out your next essay, credit card bill, or office memo:
- 1 ton of recycled paper equals 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space
- 1 ton of recycled paper equals 17 trees
- 1 ton of recycled paper saves 4, 100 kW of energy

Recycling prevents the emission of many greenhouse gases and water pollutants, saves energy, supplies valuable raw materials to industry, creates jobs, stimulates the development of greener technologies, and conserves resources for future generations.

"UNLESS someone like you cares a whole lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
~From Dr. Seuss’ The Lorax
A few ideas to reduce waste

1. Buy a lunch box and be cool. Get your friends to use lunch boxes too. Pack your food in reusable containers instead of waxed paper, sandwich bags, or aluminum foil. It will stay fresher and will not get "squashed"!

2. Use both sides of a piece of paper when writing letters or doing homework. If you only need to use one side, save the paper in a "reuse" box for future use. Make your paper last twice as long.

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**RECYCLE RIGHT**

**DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING WITH SCHOOL PAPER**
(or all the paper may end up in the landfill)

- Construction Paper
- Candy Wrappers
- Chip Bags
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Pencils
- Anything plastic
- Newspaper quality writing paper
- Tissue Paper/Paper Towels
- Paper heavily marked with marker, pens, or crayon

**AIM FOR AN “A”**

**KEEP RECYCLABLE PAPER SORTED AND CLEAN**

1. **SCHOOL PAPER**
   - Printed or Unprinted White or Light Colored Paper
   - Computer Paper
   - Scratch Paper
   - Staples are OK, but do not include paperclips

2. **NEWSPAPERS-KEEP SEPARATE FROM SCHOOL PAPER**

3. **MAGAZINES- KEEP SEPARATE FROM SCHOOL PAPER**