

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# GreenRibbonSchools



## Highlights from the 2013 Honorees



U.S. Department of Education - 400 Maryland Ave, SW - Washington, DC 20202  
[www.ed.gov/green-ribbon-schools](http://www.ed.gov/green-ribbon-schools) - [www.ed.gov/green-strides](http://www.ed.gov/green-strides)



## 2013 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools

### Ohio

#### Kenston High School, Chagrin Falls, OH

##### *Wind turbine brings alternative-energies course to life*

Kenston High School (KHS), has committed to an Energy Improvement Plan that has helped the school save roughly 30,456 watts through lighting retrofits and 500,000 gallons of water through elimination of most irrigation and the installation low-flow fixtures. Perhaps most notable is that KHS produces 70 percent of its own energy on-site with its Aeronautica 54-750 Wind Turbine. The turbine produces approximately 1.3 million Kilowatt hours per year. The school also installed a solar thermal booster system that produces 79,200 BTU and is used to heat the water system.

In addition to together providing 75 percent of the school's energy consumption, the wind turbine and solar thermal booster system are both used to enrich the curriculum at KHS. The systems provide real-time data that is utilized by students in courses such as Alternative Energies and AP Environmental Science. Conservation is encouraged and taught through the school's participation in the "Schools for Water" initiative through the Blue Planet Network. KHS adopted a school in Kenya and raised money to provide them with clean drinking water.

Along with the school's installation of accessible recycling bins, students efforts have helped increase KHS' recycling rate by 1.6 tons since 2009 through the production of video announcements and participation in the student organization group, *Envirothon*. In addition to recycling, *Envirothon* participation includes beach cleanup, environmental awareness education for elementary students, as well as other projects around campus.

With help from the community, the school recently completed construction on the first phase of Kenston Trails. When finished, the one mile trail will be used by science classes, health classes, athletic teams, and community members. A rain garden, outdoor amphitheater, and outdoor classrooms are also used to enrich the curriculum.

KHS students are encouraged to remain fit and healthy. 35 percent of food purchased is local. KHS is also a three time recipient of the Buckeye Best Healthy Schools Gold Award and a 2013 recipient of the *ED Carol M. White Physical*





*Education Grant.* A significant amount of the money has gone to purchase age-appropriate fitness equipment for students K-12. KHS also hosted a free community fitness day known as, "Play Blue in Motion." The event attracted 1,200 community members and included demonstrations, nutrition workshops, fitness assessments, cooking demonstrations, and much more. The day was so successful that KHS plans to make it an annual event.

