



# Kentwood Preparatory School

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## Going Green

A school should function as a “social anchor” teaching not only facts and figures, but morals, ethics, life skills, social skills, conscientious conduct, and respect for others and the world around us. Unfortunately, most schools today do not function in this manner. Kentwood’s philosophy of ‘Preparing Children for Life’ means that we continually strive to keep our students aware of their environment. As a school, we model proper social expectations, etiquette, and decorum for our students. Beginning April 2008, we will also model proper environmental consciousness and conservation. The “Green” transformation will be overseen by Ms. Urbancic (Science / Art Teacher) who holds a degree in Conservation and Resource Economics.

Over the next few months and continuing for years to come, we will gradually implement more ways to protect and conserve the natural resources we consume as students, teachers, as a business, and as a school. ‘Teaching socially responsible, environmentally sound practices ensures not only that our children will be prepared for tomorrow, but that tomorrow will be ready for our children.’<sup>1</sup>

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter science curriculum will focus entirely on conservation and ecological awareness. Each class will participate in a “Green Project” designed to foster an intrinsic understanding of the environmental challenges we all face. Students will also research various aspects of conservation, alternative energy, renewable resources, pollution, and ecosystems.

Effective immediately:

- Kentwood has purchased and rented Recycling Dumpsters and Recycling Cans. The first step will be to educate the students as to what items (under what conditions) can be recycled. This is an important step in conserving and protecting our environment.
- Changing all of our paper products to recycled (including cups, plates, paper towels, napkins, toilet paper, and copy paper).
- Restricting / Eliminating our bottled water and water coolers in exchange for water fountains.

As our conservation and recycling efforts increase, we will be promoting all types of ways to conserve and protect our environment. Kentwood may offer incentives, scholarships, and discounts to parents who carpool, own hybrid cars, or pack their child’s lunch with reusable containers. We hope that our parents will support and encourage our efforts by engaging in similar practices at home.