



Cool Schools News—September 2005

Your partnership helps the community

- *Students to Participate in National Environmental Conference*

The Climate Protection Campaign is sending three students to the sixteenth annual Bioneers Conference in Marin this October. The Bioneers Conference brings together many of the greatest thinkers in environmental and social justice today, and we are lucky that the conference takes place in our backyard. This year, the students will staff a booth for Cool Schools in the Conference's main hall and participate in the program's Youth Initiative, aimed at recognizing and building upon the contributions of young people in creating social and environmental change.

- *Windsor Environmental Studies Class Will Help Community Combat Climate Change*

Paul Jolly and Erin Fender co-teach Windsor High Schools Environmental Studies Core—a partnership between language arts and science. Due to the unique nature of the core program, the students have the opportunity to participate in a community environmental project for three hours every week. This year, the Climate Protection Campaign will be coordinating 10-12 of these service projects. The focus of the projects will be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions causing climate change—and include solutions such as energy efficiency upgrades and tree planting. The students will calculate the emissions saved through their efforts, and these results will be calculated into the countywide initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% below 1990 levels by 2015.

- *October 1 Workshop, "Reducing Traffic Congestion and Creating Greater Student Safety at Sonoma County Schools."*

Cool Schools will present at this workshop, sponsored by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, directed at informing administrators and parents about the need to reduce traffic congestion at school. The purpose of the workshop will be to share success stories from other communities and to offer possible funding and community resources. Part of the inspiration for this workshop is Marin County, which recently received a \$25 Million pilot grant from the federal government to develop nonmotorized transportation routes, in large part thanks to their highly successful Safe Routes to School Program. Several students with Cool Schools will attend the workshop—we hope they will be inspired to carpool or bike to the occasion. To attend the workshop, please e-mail jakellett@mac.com.

- *Seniors Will Evaluate Transportation and Emissions at Analy High School*

Senior in Dave Casey's Advance Placement Statistics class will be putting their math to work this semester to evaluate the emissions produced by student and faculty commutes. In addition to the survey, the students will develop a goal and a plan for reducing transportation emissions by researching other "ride-less" programs nationwide. The results will be presented to their school board. This project is part of a yearlong effort to incorporate sustainability with statistics—to offer students the opportunity to evaluate and compare their personal relationship with our planet's natural resources.

- *Two Students Plan to Conduct Senior Project with Cool Schools*

Two ambitious seniors at El Molino High School have already sought out the Climate Protection Campaign for their senior projects. The students will work with our Reach for the Stars program, educating the community about energy efficient products and practices. Their project will include placing advertisements on local radio stations and in local newspapers, and distributing information to residences and local businesses.

- *High School Student Intern Joins Climate Protection Campaign*

Katie Arnold, who attended our Community Target Setting Workshop in May 2005 as the youth representative for Cotati, will be joining the Climate Protection Campaign as a student intern. Now in her senior year, Katie brings a strong passion for environmental and social issues. She was integral in the decision by the Cotati City Council to adopt its 30% reduction target for the community—the boldest in the county. Katie will assist with research and curriculum development, and we are very excited to have her working with us in Graton!