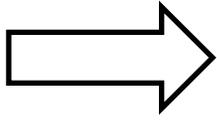


Westmeade's issues...



1. Crumbling infrastructure requires new building and location (unstable underlying foundation)
2. Fluctuating enrollment /impact on staffing
3. Diversity economic, cultural, & racial
4. We need SE (Sustainability Education) curriculum which teaches how to live sustainably and healthy living with outdoor education.
5. Funding—where it might come from?
6. Do we have to invent this curriculum?
7. Is training available?
8. Would this change our relationships with Warner Parks?
9. What happens to our campus?



A Metropolitan Nashville Public School

Sustainability solutions...

1. We need a new building— so let's take advantage of support from Westmeade and Hillwood Neighborhoods, conservation organizations, our Metro Councilperson, our MNPS board member, as we build on that community support.
2. Magnet school? It appears that magnet programs attract and retain households and students. Positive impact also occurs in attendance and stability improves.
3. Diversity is built into sustainability's core values and is celebrated in parent and community involvement. Children learn respect, empathy, and collaboration. Kids strengthen their social emotional muscles as well.
4. SE teachers and students work together on real world issues while meeting Tennessee state education standards while experiencing the benefits of outdoor/nature education.
5. Magnets receive additional federal funding through U.S. Department of Education grants and other sources, these schools can allot money differently, allowing us more creativity with our education programs.
6. The curriculum has been used for a decade in schools in Burlington VT, Urban Green Lab has been working on curriculum to match TN's standards.
7. Training from model programs is available.
8. It cements our relationship to the nature centers and other parts of metro govt.
9. Possible preschool hub or district offices.



Choses Sustainability



Sustainability means we choose to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability

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Westmeade Elementary School

What does Sustainability look like?



For the last decade WE focused on nature and outdoor education and community problem solving. When students saw how much food was being wasted in a cafeteria waste audit, they asked, “Why can’t we give this food to hungry people?” Indeed! Since then we have diverted 8,000 lbs. of food to the hungry.

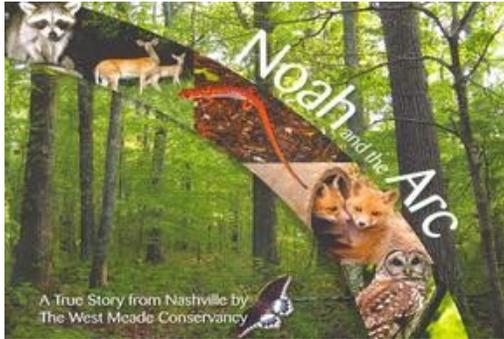
We are composting our cafeteria waste! Waste Warriors work to recycle everything but glass. Last spring our students brought in over 1,000 lbs. of plastic bags to keep them out of the oceans!

Our wildlife gardens, bird fledging programs and Audubon bird counts are all part of our sustainability plans

Our visits to Warner Parks three times each year continue to teach our students the habits of naturalists.

There are many points of connection with our existing curriculum.

Sustainability Curriculum



- ◆ Students learn through their engagement with the natural world while experiencing the beauty of our place outdoors!
- ◆ Students learn about their impact on our world.
- ◆ Students learn at developmentally appropriate levels about nature and systems. (ecology)
- ◆ Students gain an understanding of their place, and learn civic engagement!

The Pioneers and Partners

Audubon Society,
Cumberland River Compact
Delvin Farms,
Home Depot & Lowes
Kroger,
Metro Parks (Warner Nature Center)
Metro’s Gen. Services Sustainability Div.
Public Works, and Metro Water
Richland Creek Watershed Alliance
Sierra Club,
Society of St. Andrew,
TN Dept. Environment and Conservation
TN Environmental Council
TN Interfaith Power & Light
Urban Green Lab,
Walden’s Puddle
Westmeade Conservancy,
The Wood Thrush Shop,
Our families, students & neighborhoods

