



2023/24 SDUSD Recycling Challenge

September 2023 - March 2024

Your School Could Win Cash Prizes!

To help reduce waste, comply with state and local laws, and increase recycling awareness at our schools, the District is teaming up with our waste and recycling service provider, Republic Services, to bring you the 2023/24 SDUSD Recycling Challenge. There are cash prizes for the schools that divert the most waste and increase and promote recycling efforts on campus.

How it Works

All schools that receive waste and recycling services through the District contract with Republic Services are automatically included in the Challenge. A baseline of current waste disposal and recycling service levels has been set for each school with calculations based on overall diversion and the volume of material generated per-student. An emphasis will be placed on lower trash volume and costs, and increases in recycling diversion. Our goal is to increase recycling participation to keep material out of the landfill, as well as to “right-size” both trash and recycling service levels to reduce costs to the General Fund over the course of the school year.

The Recycling Challenge is points based. Schools that submit an on-line [Recycling Challenge Impact Form](#) by **March 1, 2024**, that demonstrates their school’s efforts to educate and promote recycling, waste diversion, and/or sustainability efforts on campus will receive additional points (see Page 2 for scoring rubric).

Check out the Prizes!

Cash prizes are awarded to the top two schools in each grade level category with the most points. A Most Improved award will be presented to the school that may not have reached the top tier, but made significant strides in their diversion level and outreach over the course of the school year.

In Spring 2024, winning schools will be recognized and receive monetary awards as follows:

Elementary/K-8 Schools

Winner: \$750
Runner-Up: \$500
Total: \$1,250

Middle Schools

Winner: \$1,000
Runner-Up: \$750
Total: \$1,750

High Schools

Winner: \$1,250
Runner-Up: \$1,000
Total: \$2,250

Most Improved (any school): \$250

Recycling Challenge Scoring Rubric (100 points total)

- Overall school waste diversion – volume based (highest %): **60 points**
- Volume of Trash Generated/per Student/per Month – (lowest volume): **20 points**
- Submission of Recycling Challenge Award Nomination Form: **20 points total** (see breakdown below)
 - Classroom/Office Recycling Program in place: **3 points**
 - Lunchtime Recycling Program in place: **7 points**
 - Other Waste Reduction & Diversion Efforts (i.e. composting, reuse, etc.): **5 points**
 - Recycling/Sustainability Education, Outreach, & Awareness Activities: **5 points**

Is Your School Up to the Challenge?

For more information about the Recycling Challenge, including a link to the Award Nomination Form, please see our website at: www.sdusdsustainability and click on the **News & Info** heading.

For information or assistance on expanding recycling and waste reduction programs at your school contact Janet Whited, Recycling Specialist at jwhited@sandi.net.

GOOD LUCK!