



School-wide Announcements: Carton & Lunchtime Recycling

These short announcements can be read over the loudspeaker or provided to teachers/student leaders to announce to their classes several days before the launch of the carton and lunchtime recycling program.

Announcement 1: Our school is “Going Green & Thinking Blue!” What does this mean? It means we’re about to launch a lunchtime recycling program that will include milk and juice cartons, paper lunch bags and food boxes, aluminum cans and plastic bottles, plastic fruit and yogurt cups, and more! When we “Go Green,” we make choices to help the environment and when we “Think Blue” we remember to recycle using the blue bins in our classrooms and soon to be in our lunch court.

Next Monday, we will start a new lunchtime recycling program. We need everyone’s help to separate their lunch items into the correct bins. It’s easy! All you have to do is:

- 1) Remove straws from milk cartons and juice boxes and empty extra liquids into the bucket
- 2) Place the milk cartons, juice boxes and other recyclables into the blue recycling can
- 3) Empty leftover food and trash (sporks, napkins, straws) into the gray trash can
- 4) Stack trays so they can be recycled, too!

Announcement 2: Don’t forget! Our new lunchtime recycling program will start next Monday! Only take a milk from the cafeteria if you will drink it. You don’t have to take milk, but if you do, we can recycle empty milk and juice cartons and drink boxes in our new program. Did you know that:

- Over 6.5 million milk and juice cartons are served to elementary school students in our school district every year.
- That’s about 37,000 cartons EVERY DAY!
- All of these cartons add up to almost 100 tons of waste each year!
- Every ton of paper recycled helps save 17 trees, so if we recycle all of our milk and juice cartons, we can save 1,700 trees.

So next Monday, remember to “Go Green & Think Blue” by only taking milk if you will drink it, drinking all of the milk or juice you do take, emptying any leftover liquids into the bucket, and recycling your empty cartons, drink boxes, and other recyclables in the blue recycling can.

Announcement 3: Did you know that in addition to milk cartons and drink boxes, we can recycle a lot of other items in our new lunchtime recycling program that will start next Monday? Things like paper lunch bags, Lunchables cardboard boxes and the plastic trays that come in them, plastic fruit cups and yogurt containers, plastic and aluminum drink containers, aluminum foil, and more! A poster with examples of the types of things you can recycle will be available at the lunch court as a reminder.

Please make sure you “whack” any leftover food and unacceptable items into the trash before you recycle!

Announcement 4: Let’s talk trash! Since we’ll be starting our new lunchtime recycling program next Monday, let’s talk about what CAN’T be recycled in the program. We don’t want to contaminate our recyclables with trash. So whatever you do, DON’T throw these in the recycling can!

- No plastic straws and sporks
- No Plastic baggies, chip and snack bags, food wrappers, Capri Sun and similar drink pouches, including “Rips” fruit slushy drinks, or any flimsy or squishy plastic. The rule is, if you can squeeze it into a ball, toss it in the trash!
- No napkins or paper towels

Remember, we’re “Going Green & Thinking Blue” next week!

Announcement 5: Today’s the day! We’re “Going Green & Thinking Blue” by starting our lunchtime recycling program at lunch today! As a reminder,

- Drink, Empty, Recycle your milk cartons and drink boxes
- Recycle your other paper products, such as lunch bags, Lunchables food boxes, etc. NO napkins & paper towels.
- Recycle your hard plastic products, such as fruit cups, water bottles, yogurt cups/drinks, disposable plastic bowls, trays and lids. Empty food and liquids first. Remember if you can squeeze it into a ball, it must go in the trash.

Thanks for helping the environment and our school!