



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arlington Schools awarded Student Sustainability Awareness Grant

ARLINGTON- Arlington Public Schools has been awarded a Healthy Kids-Healthy Schools grant from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). The \$14,190 grant will be used for Student Sustainability Awareness. OSPI received 80 district applications competing for \$2.25 million in available grant funds for student sustainability awareness, nutrition, and physical education and activity improvements.

The Student Sustainability Awareness grant is used for the purchase of equipment that generates student awareness of sustainability in schools. In Arlington, the funds will be used to purchase a heavy duty tow-behind chipper to dispose of yard waste which is currently stored at several sites in the district. The chipper will provide the opportunity to reduce the impact of storing this material and utilize the resulting chips/mulch for weed control and gardening activities for the FFA agricultural program as well as the Grounds department.

"We are very excited to get this grant and purchase this equipment," said Ed Aylesworth, Director of Child Nutrition and Support Services. "By partnering with our agricultural program, the organic materials generated from their work may also be shredded for composting and re-used in the greenhouse. Students will observe and learn sustainable methods of responsible farming and be able to put this learning into practice."

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An Arlington Schools maintenance worker feeds a large branch through a chipper. Arlington Public Schools recently received a Healthy Kids-Healthy Schools grant funds to purchase the chipper.