

# **ENGAGING STUDENTS IN SUSTAINABILITY**

Brendle Group makes students partners in measuring water and energy use through classroom and audit training. Students become advocates for saving resources and take that message home to continue the conversation. With more than 20 years of experience, we've learned what works best for student learning and how students influence resource conservation.



# What's Trending

- Guerrilla or non-traditional engagement can be the most effective - at a low cost.
- Instagram and Snapchat are the best outreach platforms for social-though roughly 80% of Gen Z is using Facebook.
- Micro (individual) and macro (organizational) holistic engagement can be equally effective.



## **Increase Motivation**

- Include recognition and peer-to-peer challenges.
- Illustrate the magnitude of savings with creative infographics, gamification, etc.
- ✓ Use age specific engagement and link the curriculum to sustainability activities.
- Real-time monitoring makes a bigger impact than historical data.



### **Classroom Lessons**

Mentorship can be in various directions



# **Partner for Success**

✓ Working with partners like the local energy office or utility can provide access to additional resources.



- student to student, student to parent, student to instructor.
- Be explicit and intentional students want to be treated like they're capable.
- Look for opportunities to train the trainers - it builds capacity.

Look for partners that can provide seed money to get the ball rolling.

# Real-time Results in Rural and Low-Income Schools with the Colorado Energy Office

These learnings are being applied to the Energy Savings for Schools Program Brendle Group manages in partnership with the Colorado Energy Office. Through the program, rural and low income schools have access to FREE energy and water resources including:

- $\checkmark$  On-site energy and water audits from a team of experts.
- $\checkmark$  Evaluation of renewable energy opportunities.
- Technical support and energy coaching.

- Implementation support and help identifying existing funding and financing options for completing projects.
- Recognition and opportunities to engage students.

Learn more at **bit.ly/CEOenergysavings**.

#### Impact Driven, People Centered Sustainability



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Brendle Group is an engineering and planning firm focused on helping clients solve complex sustainability challenges through practical planning, robust engineering and analysis, and actionable implementation. We approach global challenges head-on by thriving at the vial intersection of climate, energy, and water to bring innovative sustainability solutions to our client's bottom line goals.

Denver Alliance Center Salt Lake City Beehive Fort Collins Headquarters 212 West Mulberry St. 212 West Mulberry St. 1536 Wynkoop St. Suite 430 Fort Collins, CO 80521 Denver, CO 80202 Fort Collins, CO 80521

(970) 207-0058



