



## School Nominee Presentation Form

### ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATIONS

#### School and District's Certifications

The signatures of the school principal and district superintendent (or equivalents) on the next page certify that each of the statements below concerning the school's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. *In no case is a private school required to make any certification with regard to the public school district in which it is located.*

1. The school has some configuration that includes grades Pre-K-12.
2. The school has been evaluated and selected from among schools within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction, based on high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental education.
3. Neither the nominated public school nor its public school district is refusing the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) access to information necessary to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct a district wide compliance review. The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is not subject to the jurisdiction of OCR. The nominated DoDEA schools, however, are subject to and in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements to comply with Federal civil rights laws.
4. OCR has not issued a violation letter of findings to the public school district concluding that the nominated public school or the public school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes. A violation letter of findings will not be considered outstanding if OCR has accepted a corrective action plan to remedy the violation.
5. The U.S. Department of Justice does not have a pending suit alleging that the public school or the public school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clause.
6. There are no findings of violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in a U.S. Department of Education monitoring report that apply to the public school or public school district in question; or if there are such findings, the state or public school district has corrected, or agreed to correct, the findings.
7. The school meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

### U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools 2015-2018

Public  Charter  Title I  Magnet  Private  Independent  Rural

Name of Principal: Mr. Christopher Lupo

(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., etc.) (As it should appear in the official records)

Official School Name: Carnation Elementary School

(As it should appear on an award)

Official School Name Mailing Address: 4950 Tolt Avenue, Carnation, WA 98014

(If address is P.O. Box, also include street address.)

County: King State School Code Number \*: 2485

Telephone: 425-844-4550 Fax: 425-844-4552

Web site/URL: <http://ce.rsd407.org/default.aspx> E-mail: [lupoc@rsd407.org](mailto:lupoc@rsd407.org)

\*Private Schools: If the information requested is not applicable, write N/A in the space

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify that to the best of my knowledge all information is accurate.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher J. Lupo".

Date: 3/27/2018

(Principal's Signature)

Name of Superintendent: Dr. Anthony Smith

(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., etc.) (As it should appear in official records)



District Name: Riverview School District

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify that to the best of my knowledge all information is accurate.

Date: 3/27/18

(Superintendent's Signature)

### Nominating Authority's Certifications

The signature by the Nominating Authority on this page certifies that each of the statements below concerning the school's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of the Authority's knowledge.

1. The school has some configuration that includes grades Pre-K-12.
2. The school is one of those overseen by the Nominating Authority which is highest achieving in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
3. The school meets all applicable federal civil rights and federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

Name of Nominating Agency: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Name of Nominating Authority: Ms. Rochelle Gandour-Rood

(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., Other)

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify to the best of my knowledge that the school meets the provisions above.

Date: 3/27/18

(Nominating Authority's Signature)

### SUMMARY AND DOCUMENTATION OF NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Provide a coherent summary that describes how your school is representative of your jurisdiction's highest achieving green school efforts. Summarize your strengths and accomplishments in all three Pillars. Then, include concrete examples for work in every Pillar and Element. Only schools that document progress in every Pillar and Element can be considered for this award.

### SUBMISSION

The nomination package, including the signed certifications and documentation of evaluation in the three Pillars should be converted to a PDF file and emailed to [green.ribbon.schools@ed.gov](mailto:green.ribbon.schools@ed.gov) according to the instructions in the Nominee Submission Procedure.

OMB Control Number: 1860-0509

Expiration Date: March 31, 2018

### Public Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1860-0509. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 37 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and



completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit P.L. 107-110, Sec. 501, Innovative Programs and Parental Choice Provisions. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202-4536 or email [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) and reference the OMB Control Number 1860-0509. Note: Please do not return the completed ED-Green Ribbon Schools application to this address.

## **Carnation Elementary School Green Ribbon Schools Application**

### **Summary Narrative**

At Carnation Elementary, environmental education is presented as a global issue that touches the local community in tangible ways. Classroom instruction is combined with direct field studies to give the students a sense of place in their local environment and develop a sense of stewardship towards the local ecosystem. Our school also partners with local agencies and organizations to not only learn about the environment, but to also work actively at improving conditions. Students are presented the opportunity to work with local scientists, educators, organic farmers, and specialists who impart on them a perspective and understanding that is personal and meaningful.

The environmental studies at Carnation Elementary are tailored to help connect the students to their environment. Each year, students help raise Salmon fry as part of their studies into the Salmon lifecycle. These fry are then released into a local stream to become part of the ecosystem. Additionally, students have also worked with King County and the Snoqualmie tribe on volunteer tree plantings and riparian zone restoration on local rivers. This work helps ensure the health of the local watershed and the success of the local animals that depend on this ecosystem.

Carnation Elementary is home to a student led environmental club that works to bring environmental awareness to the student body and reduce the impact of the school on the local ecosystem. The club set up a program that collects food scraps from the school cafeteria for use as hog feed in the community. The students are currently working on a grant to get filtered water bottle stations installed throughout the school building in time for the next academic year. The environmental club is also working on a grant to provide every student with a BPA free water bottle at the beginning of each school year. The students are developing a graphic to be printed onto the water bottles that will demonstrate pride in their school combined with a commitment to environmental sustainability.

Carnation Elementary is a Level 4 recognized school in the King County Green School Program. This achievement recognizes the significant effort and progress that the school community has made over the past several years in the conservation of water and energy. Currently, a rain garden is under construction on the school grounds to process water runoff from the school roof. The garden is funded by a grant from the Snoqualmie Partnership and King County Flood Control. The garden is being implemented by intermediate students from Carnation Elementary under the guidance of Snoqualmie Stewardship specialists.

Carnation Elementary encourages carpooling by parents that drive their children to school and has set up a no-idle zone in the school yard. Good solar hygiene and proper use of sunscreens is also taught to the students by the school nurse. Healthy snacking is taught to the students to help them make informed decisions about their nutrition. The school works with a local food bank on several drives throughout the year. A used winter clothing drive helps the community by providing warm clothing for many of the students and families within the community. As the school year draws to a close, the students learn about summer food instability through their efforts on a summer food drive. Students are encouraged to be active in their daily lives.

Carnation Elementary participates in the Girls on the Run program to promote health, well-being and positive self-image among its student population.

Students at Carnation Elementary are encouraged to share their newly acquired knowledge to their families and local community. This sharing empowers the students and encourages them to be active learners and advocates for the environment. Throughout the year, students participate in walking field trips that take them into the local community and ecosystem. Outside of the school boundaries, students have been involved in tree plantings, river exploration and restoration, forest trail studies, ecological presentations at the local farmers market, and releasing of salmon fry into local streams.

### **Green Schools Program Participation**

1. King County Green School Level One 2009
2. King County Green School Level Two 2011
3. King County Green School Level Three 2012
4. King County Green School Level Four Sustaining Green School 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

### **Awards Won**

1. Earth Hero Elizabeth Wing and students from Dow Constantine in 2011
2. Earth Hero Elizabeth Wing from Dow Constantine in 2016
3. Snoqualmie Stewardship Rain Garden Grant of \$16,000 for Carnation Elementary from 12,000 Rain Gardens and King County Flood Reduction in 2017
4. Healthier US Bronze School Carnation Elementary in 2014

## **Pillar 1: Reducing Environmental Impact and Costs**

### **1A. Energy Conservation**

Carnation Elementary is housed in an energy efficient building that utilizes many modern technologies to reduce the amount of energy used by the school. A major renovation was done to the school in 2010 in which energy efficient systems and appliances were installed. The justification for investing in these systems was the long-term payback, but the savings to the environment are well recognized.

The HVAC system for Carnation Elementary is entirely run on high-efficiency, two-stage heat pumps. These heat pumps are used to heat the school in the winter and to provide cooling in the warm months. All the air filters in the ventilation system are checked monthly for clogging and are replaced four times per year. The energy consumption data for this particular HVAC installation is unavailable, but energy savings by high efficiency heat pumps use is widely recognized and well documented.

All lighting fixtures at Carnation Elementary use fluorescent bulbs. Lights are all on timers to ensure no lights are left on after hours. Motion detector switches are installed on lights that may be needed

outside of normal hours to eliminate the need of switching them on/off. This ensures these lights are also not used except as needed.

All windows at Carnation Elementary are low-E, double paned glass. This helps to reduce the heat load of the building compared to traditional glass windows.

The student run Environmental Club is working towards collecting data and working with the school district to find areas of possible greater energy use savings within the school. This is a great opportunity for the students to research energy efficiency and engage the school district in meaningful dialogue.

### **1B. Water Conservation**

Carnation Elementary uses low flow faucets in all water fixtures to reduce water consumption. All bathrooms have been outfitted with automatic flush, low flow toilets. All bathroom sinks use automatic faucets to minimize the amount of water used for hand washing. Data is unavailable on the exact impact this had had on the water consumption of Carnation Elementary, but the low flow technology is widely recognized for its water savings.

All drinking fountains have signs co-located to encourage conservation awareness and deter wasteful habits. Drinking fountains are regularly checked for leaks. All fountains are regularly cleaned to minimize any chance of bacterial contamination. The Conservation club is currently working on a grant to replace the drinking fountains with modern, filtered, water stations that can be used to fill reusable water bottles. These stations will allow students to drink water with no losses at the fountain and will significantly reduce the use of bottled water in the school.

Carnation Elementary is an irrigation-free school. Three native plant gardens, which require no irrigation, are used to decorate the school grounds. Bark mulch is used in areas to trap moisture and further reduce the need for any irrigation.

All storm drains at Carnation Elementary are stenciled with "Salmon to Sound" markings to remind students, staff, and parents to be careful of what goes into the school runoff. A rain garden is currently under construction to cleanse run-off from roof, and will be completed in the spring of 2018. This rain garden is in a highly visible area and is intended to educate the public on the use of rain gardens as water purifying landscaping. The goal is to raise awareness and spread the use of rain gardens in the community.

### **1C. Waste Reduction**

Carnation Elementary has a robust recycling program. As part of the King County Green School certification it was required the school demonstrated significant reductions in waste (starting in 2008). Carnation Elementary originally used a 10-cubic yard waste container that was emptied once a week. In 2008 a recycling container was added to the school and recycling bins were put in each office and classroom. In 2011 the school settled on an 8-cubic yard recycling container due to the amount of recycling. The 10-cubic yard waste container is under-utilized, and discussions are under way to reduce the size of the waste container to 8 cubic yards. The recycling rate at Carnation Elementary is more than 60%. With food recycling programs currently underway, this rate is expected to climb even higher in the next year.

Carnation Elementary has banned all Styrofoam products from campus. Cardboard and post-consumer recyclables are implemented as replacements to all Styrofoam products. All paper (including copy, artwork, paper towels, and napkins) used in the school is made from post-consumer recycled sources. The default print setting for all school communications and work sheets is double sided printing. Special art projects that use all recycled materials have also been introduced in the school curriculum.

The cafeteria has implemented a strong waste recycling program. All trays are plastic reusable and all utensils are metal.

Students are not provided any single use items at lunch. A special food scrap receptacle is located, and staffed by the environmental club, to gather food waste that is used to feed a local pet pig. During lunch periods, students make presentations to their peers on ways to reduce waste and increase their environmental awareness. These lunchtime presentations are in addition to an annual school assembly where students present recycling strategies to the entire school community.

### **1D. Transportation Alternatives**

Carnation Elementary is a rural school that serves a thinly-populated area that extends many miles. Most students are transported to school via school buses. The entire fleet of buses are newer buses that were built after the tougher emission standards were introduced. The buses are also mandated to follow the school's no idling policy while they are on school grounds.

Carpooling is encouraged for any students who are transported to school via private vehicles. All vehicles on school grounds are required to follow the no idling policy.

Carnation Elementary is located inside the limits of Carnation, and there are many students who walk to school. A bike rack is provided on school grounds to encourage students to also ride bikes to school.

## **Pillar 2: Improving the Health and Wellness of Schools, Students, and Staff**

### **2A. Health and Safety**

Carnation Elementary underwent a major renovation project in 2011. New cabinets, flooring, furniture, light fixtures and water fixtures were all installed. Modern materials and technologies were incorporated to save electricity and minimize student/staff exposure to older building materials. All asbestos was removed from the school during the renovation. A modern HVAC system was installed to help ensure the air quality inside the building. The proper temperature and humidity controls are important to ensuring no molds can develop inside the school.

Filtered water stations are to be installed in the next year. These stations will provide purified drinking water to all students and staff.

### **2B. Nutrition and Fitness**

Carnation Elementary participates in the USDA Healthier US School Challenge for Smarter Lunchrooms. The school is active in the Farm to School Program, and much of the food used in the cafeteria is sourced from local farms. Carnation Elementary has partnered with Oxbow farm. At Oxbow the students learn about sustainability, the importance of bees and pollination, and what make a "salmon-safe" farm.

Carnation Elementary has adopted the motto of "Take what you eat and eat what you take". The environmental club students created an assembly on this topic in which they educated their peers and staff members on school food waste. Students were encouraged to make healthy food choices and to eat a well-balanced diet.

The location of the school is perfect for walking field trips, and students have been involved in numerous field studies, tree plantings, river restorations, and forest explorations. Through the hands-on curriculum, the students are exposed to healthy activities and habits that draw them into the local surroundings.

Food instability issues are present in the local community. The students at Carnation Elementary work hard to partner with local food banks to help combat this issue in their community through food drives at school. The school provides Power Packs Weekends to students through a local program of the Snoqualmie Valley Network.

A morning walking club meets each morning in the school gymnasium before the start of the school day. In the spring, girls are encouraged to participate in the Girls on the Run program, which trains at Carnation Elementary after school. Students participate in 55 minutes of daily recess and 50 minutes of physical education per week as part of the school curriculum.

Sunscreen and hat coverage reminders for outdoor activities and field trips. Students are encouraged to drink water throughout the school day.

## **2C. Mental Health and School Climate**

Since 2015, Carnation Elementary students and staff embrace mindfulness practices to encourage a healthy environment to support students in their physical, emotional and academic growth. Currently, students and staff participate in mindful minutes throughout the school day to encourage students to understand and advocate for themselves. Staff members continue to participate in mindfulness readings and book studies to support the needs of our students and families.

Our full time school counselor provides social and emotional support to the students. She also works with students on interpersonal intelligence skills and strategies to enhance student self-awareness and emotional health and advocacy. Our counselor implements classroom education through Second Step, Kelso's Choice, and Bullying Prevention. In addition, Carnation Elementary is a practicing Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school. PBIS is a proactive, school-wide approach in establishing behavioral supports and social culture to assist all students to achieve social, emotional and academic success. This combination of preventive services and PBIS helps reduce risk behaviors that threaten student health and safety (anxiety and/or depression). It also fosters pro-social indicators including self-awareness, empathy, emotional/social intelligence, interpersonal problem-solving, and school and community engagement. Our counselor works with small group classes to help students with grief, anxiety, friendship, flexibility, and positive thinking.

Our student intervention team works cooperatively to support our school families. Our team introduces families in need to wraparound services and the Friends of Youth program, both of which provide additional support for families outside of the school day.

The healthy and helping climate of the school extends to the playground. Carnation Elementary has peer helpers on the playground who are trained to help their peers solve their own problems. Our school also has installed a Buddy Bench, where students can go when they are feeling lonely and in need of a friend.

### **Pillar 3: Providing Effective Environmental and Sustainability Education**

#### **3Ai. Integrated Environmental and Sustainability Education**

Environmental studies and sustainability are important parts of the curriculum at Carnation Elementary. Students undertake a hands-on and classroom based curriculum of lifecycle studies at each grade level. Examples of these projects are: raising chicks and ducklings, studying the lifecycle of butterflies, preparing soil and raising red wigglers, studying the lifecycle of salmon, raising and releasing salmon fry in a school aquarium, and studying the roll of pollinators in plant life.

Students work outside the school boundaries on many projects. Students take walking field trips to the Tolt and Snoqualmie Rivers, where they study and map the redds (egg nests) created by the spawning Salmon. Students work on these same rivers with King County and the Snoqualmie Tribe to restore habitat for the local animals. The students use trail cameras in the local forests to study and record the behaviors of the local animals. In past years the students have worked as Citizen Scientists and have participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count. Students share their learning and thinking with family members through pictures, writing and videos using the technology of Seesaw.

Carnation Elementary has an annual STEM night where staff, families and the community are invited to participate in STEM-based activities for all abilities. Students' science based projects are on display for all to see and investigate. Participatory math, technology, and engineering based activities and cooperative projects are available to families throughout the school.

#### **3Aii. Teacher Professional Development**

The state of Washington has adopted the Next Generation Science Standards. Teachers at Carnation Elementary are engaging the cross cutting concepts of the Earth Science Standards of NGSS. The Riverview School District is currently in the process of adopting the FOSS Science Curriculum, which will be integrated into next year's curriculum. Our staff is beginning to utilize inquiry based education and works with outside professionals and scientists to provide the students with lessons and activities that encourage thinking. This allows the students to make important connections to the environment. By collaborating with outside professionals, the staff at Carnation Elementary is exposed to the science behind environmental and sustainability concepts. For example, this past year our school worked with professionals from the Snoqualmie Tribe, Snoqualmie Partnership, Nature Vision, Oxbow Organic Farm, and King County Green School and Flood Control Divisions on issues relating to environmental science.

#### **3Bi. Science Supported by Environmental and Sustainability Education**

Our students are encouraged to explore, observe, document and create connections through Inquiry based field studies as well as class projects. Carnation Elementary is located within the Snoqualmie-Skykomish watershed. This location allows our students to be active participants in the study and restoration of a critical habitat that is directly related to their life cycle curriculum.

Many of our students live on the local waterways and are familiar with the environment surrounding these waterways. Our curriculum enables students to also make connections between the health of watersheds and the success of local organic farms to produce food. The students see that the health of the environment has impacts on people's well-being as well as on the animals and animal life cycles they study.

Primary grade students learn and participate in the growth and life-cycle of chickens, plants, butterflies, worms and the importance of healthy soil. Many students live on farms and can care for the chicks raised in the classroom. Students can work in three of the school's gardens and apply their critical thinking in concrete and relevant terms. Third grade students raise salmon fry in a tank as part of the salmon life-cycle study. Every spring, students release the salmon fry in a local creek.

Students also study the life-cycle of pollinators and research the environmental harms affecting bees. Third grade students visit a local farm to study the important relationship between pollinators and plants/food. Fourth grade students study water and landforms. They research the environmental impacts that challenge habitats, animals, plants, air, and humans.

The fifth grade students participate in environmental studies and activities at multi-day/night trip to Camp Waskowitz in North Bend. At camp, students participate in exploratory field studies and engage directly with the varied wetland, forest and river habitats.

### **3Bii. Environmental Career-Connected Learning**

Environmental education and sustainability is presented as a global issue that touches the local community in tangible ways. Classroom instruction is combined with direct field studies to give the students a sense of place in their local environment and develop a sense of stewardship towards the local ecosystem. Our school also partners with local agencies and organizations to not only learn about the environment, but to also work actively at improving conditions. Students are presented the opportunity to work with local scientists, educators, organic farmers, artists, and specialists who impart on them a perspective and understanding that is personal and meaningful.

Carnation Elementary partners with Oxbow Farm. This partnership has allowed students to interact with professionals on ecology, biology, and botany. We also received a \$16,000 grant to create a rain garden on school grounds. The rain garden provides students the opportunity to learn about native plants with landscape architects and work with civil engineers who specialize in flood water prevention and road pollutants.

Through citizen science programs, like the Great Backyard Bird Count, students can participate in field studies and record their data through technology networks across the globe. Art docents integrate environmental themes through different mediums to allow students the opportunity to express their understanding of their world.

The King County Green School Program has offered students the opportunity to see themselves as learners and active leaders of today. Through the green school program students learn that their actions and voices are important. Students understand through school experience and leadership that environmental sustainability is integrated in many careers today and in their future.

### **3C. Civic Engagement**

Students at Carnation Elementary have worked alongside the Snoqualmie Tribe to repair riparian zones along salmon creeks and have planted native plants with the King County Fish and Wildlife. Students raise salmon eggs for release in a tank that were procured from the Skykomish hatchery. Along with Snoqualmie Stewardship and King County Flood Department students are implementing a rain garden that will filter run-off pollutants. The school environmental club worked to find a local pig to feed the school's food scraps, thus reducing our school's impact on landfills. Every year, students run a warm clothing drive for their local food bank to help their community members and to reuse clothing.

Carnation Elementary is home to a student led environmental club that works to bring environmental awareness to the student body. The club members are responsible for updating the King County Green School Tier of sustainability for our school. This requires working with the custodian, school cook, teachers, office assistants, and the principal. To lessen the impact of food waste at our school, the members worked with the director of food services on possible solutions. The students found a local pet pig that this scrap could feed. The students researched food needs to keep the pig safe and healthy, created a PowerPoint presentation and created an engaging foods waste game. The presentation and game were used by the club to educate the student body about food waste at a school assembly.

The students are currently working on a grant through the Riverview Education Fund to get two filtered water bottle stations installed throughout the school. Also, the environmental club is working on a grant through our PTSA to provide every student with a BPA free water bottle at the beginning of each school year. They are becoming sustainable leaders of today.