

# PLT GreenSchools! Connections to Green Ribbon Schools

Through the Green Ribbon Schools program, the U.S. Department of Education will recognize schools with high levels of achievement in environmental education, sustainable facilities, and healthy practices. Below is a diagram of PLT GreenSchools! connections with Green Ribbon Schools to help you along the way to national recognition.

Green Ribbon Schools Pillars and Elements	PLT's Energy Investigation	PLT's School Site Investigation	PLT's Waste and Recycling Investigation	PLT's Water Investigation	PLT's Environmental Quality Investigation
<b>1. Environmental Impact and Energy Efficiency</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced or eliminated greenhouse gas emissions, using an energy audit or emissions inventory and reduction plan, cost-effective energy efficiency improvements, conservation measures, and/or on-site renewable energy and/or purchase of green power;</li> </ul>	<b>X</b> School-Wide Energy Survey Classroom Energy Survey				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved water quality, efficiency, and conservation;</li> </ul>				<b>X</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced solid and hazardous waste production, through increased recycling, reduced consumption, and improved management, reduction, or elimination of hazardous waste streams; and</li> </ul>			<b>X</b>		<b>X</b> Chemical Management Section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanded use of alternative transportation to, during and from school, through active promotion of locally-available, energy-efficient options and implementation of alternative transportation supportive projects and policies.</li> </ul>	<b>X</b>				<b>X</b> Transportation Section
<b>2. Healthy School Environments</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An integrated school environmental health program based on an operations and facility-wide environmental management system that considers student, visitor and staff health and safety in all practices related to design, construction, renovation, operations, and maintenance of schools and grounds; and</li> </ul>		<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> Indoor Air Quality Section Measuring CO <sub>2</sub> in the Classroom Mercury Section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High standards of nutrition, fitness, and quantity of quality outdoor time for both students and staff.</li> </ul>		<b>X</b>			
<b>3. Environmental and Sustainability Education</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interdisciplinary learning about the key relationships between dynamic environmental, energy and human systems;</li> </ul>	<b>X</b> Curriculum & Community Section	<b>X</b> Curriculum & Community Section	<b>X</b> Curriculum & Community Section	<b>X</b> Curriculum & Community Section	<b>X</b> Curriculum & Community Section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of the environment and sustainability to develop STEM content knowledge and thinking skills to prepare graduates for the 21st century technology-driven economy; and</li> </ul>	<b>X</b> Monitoring & Data Collection Section	<b>X</b> Monitoring & Data Collection Section	<b>X</b> Monitoring & Data Collection Section	<b>X</b> Monitoring & Data Collection Section	<b>X</b> Monitoring & Data Collection Section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of civic engagement knowledge and skills, and students' application of these to address sustainability and environmental issues in their community.</li> </ul>	<b>X</b> Service-learning Action Plan Home Connections Case Study	<b>X</b> Service-learning Action Plan Home Connections Case Study	<b>X</b> Service-learning Action Plan Home Connections Case Study	<b>X</b> Service-learning Action Plan Home Connections Case Study	<b>X</b> Service-learning Action Plan Home Connections Case Study