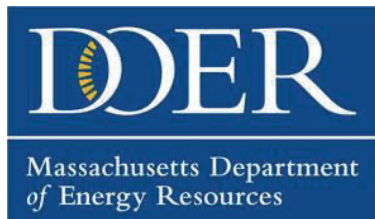


Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

CASE STUDY



*Massachusetts Department of
Elementary & Secondary Education*

SUMMARY

Led by Energy Advisor Kate Crosby, the school district promotes environmental awareness for students of all grade levels through courses focused on sustainability, district-wide events, and use of green building facilities. It is one of just fourteen school districts nationwide to receive the Green Ribbon District Sustainability Award.

Teaching Green Principles

- ♦ Elementary school students learn about ecosystems by studying animal behavior and participating in nature walks
- ♦ High school students enroll in AP Environmental Science to learn about energy use, natural resources, and climate change

Adopting Green Practices

- ♦ The school's bus system uses low-sulfur diesel and contains an energy saving device that shuts off energy use after five minutes of idling
- ♦ The "Reverse Science Fair" is an opportunity for middle school and high school students to learn from volunteers about STEM and green technology
- ♦ High school students host an energy fair to teach sixth graders about energy use
- ♦ Two elementary schools have created a Walking School Bus program for safe transportation to school

Acton Public Schools and
Acton-Boxborough
Regional School District

Location: Acton, MA and
Boxborough, MA
Enrollment: 5, 424

**Acton-Boxborough
Regional High School is
one of only a few schools
to win both a Blue
Ribbon award for
academic distinction and
a Green Ribbon award
for sustainability.**



ENERGY COST SAVINGS AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- ♦ Acton-Boxborough cut energy use by 22% and electricity use by 18% in just three years
- ♦ The EPA has awarded Energy Star® certification to four schools
- ♦ 98% of high school students scored a 3 or better on the AP Environmental Science exam