

# MBMS Grades of Green Lunch Time

## Waste Reduction Program

**Overview:** In 2013, Grades of Green and Waste Management teamed up to make litter reduction and trash diversion second nature at MBMS. Trash sorting stations were set up in the lunch quad to enable students to sort lunch waste. This year, with the help of monthly lunchtime parent volunteers supervising the sorting stations, students will be re-introduced to the new *food waste* bins and continue to sort waste properly to decrease trash going to our landfills and increase recycling. We are asking volunteers to position themselves at sorting stations during the lunch hour. Here is how parents can help:

1. **Encourage students to sort lunch waste into proper receptacles. Refer to signage on containers to reinforce proper use.**

**Food waste** (grey round bins with yellow liners) – students put all leftover food waste and any lunch time PAPER packaging such as milk cartons, pizza boxes, paper boats, Pick Up Stix boxes, paper wrappers and napkins including liquids into the food waste cart. **NO PLASTIC** in this bin.

**Bottles and cans** (blue cart with hole in the lid) – students place only EMPTY bottles and cans for redemption in this cart.

**Recycling** (blue can) – used for all recyclable plastics such as plastic salad containers and sushi trays (including clean Styrofoam), and aluminum/metal and glass items not eligible for redemption.

**Landfill** (tan/gray can) - used for flimsy, plastic wrappers; chip and snack bags; and baggies.

2. **Encourage students to always pick up after themselves and use the proper receptacles to AVOID LITTER.**
3. **Provide positive verbal reinforcement for kids who sort properly and pick up their lunch waste items.**

### **TIPS for volunteering at the sorting stations:**

1. Please sign in at the office on time **Mon, Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 12:25-1:20; Wed. 12:50-1:33**
2. Please stay within one sorting station area during your shift. If not all stations have a volunteer that day, please oversee the 2 or 3 stations closest to you.
3. Please ask students to “sort” their waste immediately when they are done eating. They can go back to their table after they sort.  
\*\*This prevents them from “accidentally” leaving their waste on the table when they get up or when the bell rings. I HOPE THIS NEW ROUTINE WILL CUT DOWN ON LITTER AS WELL.
4. Please remind students to pick up the litter on the ground around their area too.
5. Please be a positive adult presence by offering encouragement if needed and redirection when appropriate.

**THANK YOU!!!**