



SERT Flash

School Energy and Recycling Team



Recycling Juice Boxes is an Every Day Thing! Go Westbrook Elementary School



Westbrook Elementary School Building Service Manager Raymond Blanchard shows MCPS students how to recycle juice boxes!

SERT staff was invited to help celebrate Earth Day at Westbrook Elementary School to help support their week long trash free lunch efforts. A great surprise awaited SERT staff when we arrived. Students brought their lunches in reusable plastic containers, cloth napkins, and some students even brought their own flatware. The building service manager has a complete recycling station set up in the cafeteria. One bin just for trash, one bin for bottles and cans, and one bin for juice boxes and paper. Mr. Blanchard provides positive guidance and encouragement to the students in their efforts to recycle responsibly while manning the recycling station.

This additional recycling opportunity exists in all of our schools. SERT visits all Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) during lunch periods by request in the SERT "Reach-Out Lunch Program," one issue is universal amongst schools visited so far this year – a lack of paper recycling containers. Juice boxes and milk cartons are recyclable and should be collected in a "paper" container. These bins are also available to schools through the Maximo work order system.

Please join Westbrook Elementary School in their superior recycling practices by placing a paper recycling bin in your cafeteria next to each recycling station. Post signage ([click for link](#)) above and directly on the paper bin to provide a visual aid that reminds students and staff to recycle drink boxes. This additional bin is a significant and necessary part of the lunch time recycling protocol which will help increase our rates.

SERT would like to thank Mr. Blanchard and all of Westbrook Elementary School's recyclers for their dedicated recycling plan to capture more of the recycling stream. Every drink box counts...

Do you have a "SERT Flash" you would like to share about your SERT efforts? Please submit a photograph and paragraph about your team and you too can be featured in a future FLASH!

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"It's your world...choose to conserve"