

For Immediate Release



## Cumberland County Schools Adopts Go “Green” Initiative

Cumberland County Schools is “going green” this school year with adoption of the Go “Green” Initiative (GGI), a grassroots program that teaches students personal responsibility for the earth and helps schools evaluate every aspect of their environmental impact. A partnership that involves students, teachers, administrators, parents, custodians, central service personnel and community partners, the GGI provides schools with tools to create their own unique programs that encourage environmentally-responsible behavior inside and outside of the classroom.

The GGI is a program designed to meet the initiative developed by the Greater Fayetteville II community wide plan to “Grow and Sustain a Green Community”. In partnership with Sustainable Sandhills, a non-profit organization working to raise environmental awareness, Cumberland County Schools has developed a program to encourage environmental stewardship. The GGI will be introduced to the Sanford and Smith district schools initially.

The GGI focuses on five basic principles that provide a comprehensive approach to environmental education on school campuses.

- *Awareness/Education: Promoting sustainable practices by integrating activities into the student’s lesson plans and by communicating, celebrating and awarding positive change.*
- *Pollution Control: Focusing on alternatives in transportation, cleaning, pest management and storm water control with the least potential impact on human health and the environment.*
- *Waster Reduction/Recycling: Promoting the efficient use of materials and the reuse or recycling of discarded materials.*
- *Water Conservation/Efficiency: Seeking to reduce water consumption through the use of efficient equipment and conservative practices.*
- *Energy Conservation/Efficiency: Following the Cumberland County Schools Conservation/Incentive Plan.*

We believe we have a moral obligation to protect our environment and natural resources for future generations. Sustainable practices create a better learning environment, improve efficiency and save dollars! For more information about the Go “Green” Initiative, look for our future web site at CCS.