

February 8, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Is Gorman Crossing Elementary green? I don't mean the color of the building. Is Gorman Crossing a school that recycles, helps the environment and tries to be waste-free? I am Jessica, a third grade student at Gorman Crossing and I am looking for evidence that our school is green.

Some people think that Gorman Crossing does not recycle. When I interviewed Mr. Tyson Echentile, a member of the GCES Green School Committee, I learned that teachers in the building have their own recycling bins that are emptied daily by members of student government. I also learned that each grade recycles something. For example, my grade recycles glue bottles and first grade recycles old crayons to make candles for the holidays. Also, GCES hands out tiny book clips for students' agendas made from recycled cereal boxes.

Some people say that Gorman Crossing is wasteful. From experience, I know that GCES helps the environment by trying not to throw away too much. In other words, trying not to waste. An example of this is that GCES handed out waste-free cloth napkins to every student. (Their idea was to not use paper napkins – they are wasteful.)

Some people say that Gorman Crossing uses too much energy. In my interview with Mr. Echentile, I learned that students are now turning off lights in the classroom when they leave. I have noticed that teachers are using small desk lamps instead of overhead lights when students are not in the classroom. Also, one day each month, teachers do not use the copier. These are all ways that Gorman Crossing saves energy.

Now here's the question, "Is GCES really a green school?" Well, GCES is on their way. According to data, GCES is like 6% away from being a 100% green school. Go Gorman Crossing! Go Green! Go Gorman Crossing! Go Green!

Sincerely,

Jessica Wu

Mrs.Rubin's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class