



# GO GREEN INITIATIVE

## 2020 SUMMER MULTI-CITY INTERNSHIP REPORT

JUNE 15, 2020 - AUGUST 7, 2020



COMPTON, OAKLAND, HAYWARD - CALIFORNIA  
NIANTIC - ILLINOIS

# 2020 INTERNSHIP PROFILE

**The 2020 Go Green Initiative interns are like no other, because 2020 is a year like no other.**

Not only was this one of the first virtual Go Green Initiative internship, but it was the first to employ interns from across multiple cities and states.

Out of 27 applicants, 16 interns from Compton, CA, Hayward, CA, Oakland, CA and Niantic, IL, were selected for the virtual internship. Interns studied steps their school districts had already taken to conserve energy, and created presentations to educate their school community about energy saving techniques.

Rather than meeting in person at the office, all of our interns met synchronously over **Zoom**. Interns identified areas where energy could be easily saved and reported on various practices their school could use to save energy.

By the end of the 7-week internship, interns had learned about the U.S. EPA's **Energy Star Portfolio Manager** tool, how to conduct a walk-through **energy audit** of their school, how to use a **P3 4400 Kill A Watt device**, how to read an energy bill, and ways to help their high school strive for **Energy Star Certification**.

**20**

**Presentations**

**1008**

**Intern Work  
Hours**

**16**

**Paid Interns**

**\$14,077**

**Intern Salary**

Social Media from Interns' Energy  
Efficiency Outreach Campaign

COMPTON UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Schools went from  
having poor air  
quality to improved  
occupant comfort**

See how Engie has improved  
student's everyday performance  
and involvement in their schools

Compton Unified

Goal: Become Energy Star Certified for  
the first time in 2 long years

## Energy Efficiency

- 1 Equipment
- 2 upgrades
- 3 Funding

Compton Unified schools have made a great  
effort throughout the years to save energy and  
money, but there is still more room for  
improvement.

Save more energy! Save more  
money! Make a change!

## Save Energy!

1. Turn off lights when not in use

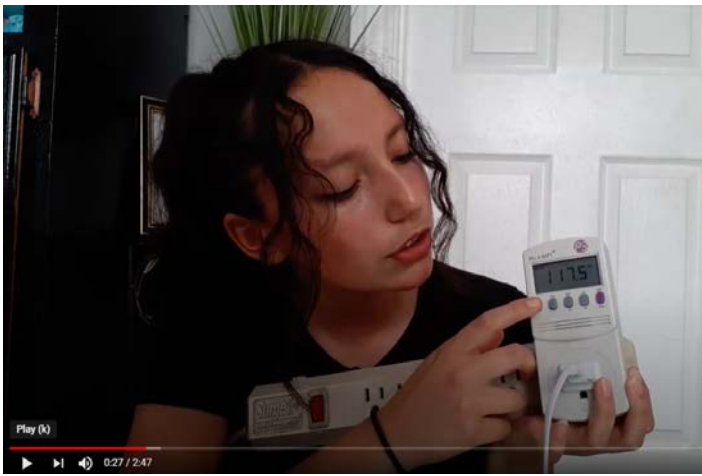


2. Take advantage of windows  
and natural light



3. Consider not charging  
unnecessary appliances

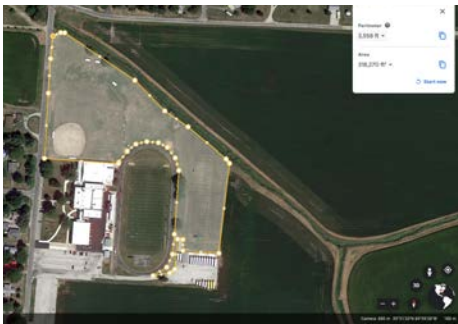




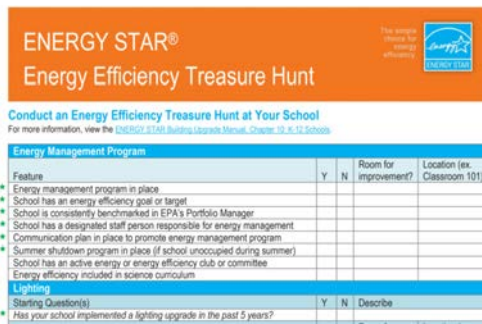
How to use a P3 4400 Kill A Watt



Internship Open House



Measuring Outdoor Square Footage



Energy Treasure Hunt



Passion Projects

## Juneteenth - June 19, 2020

This year, interns observed Juneteenth on June 19th, 2020 as a reminder of the end of de jure slavery in the United States. Throughout history and to this day, communities of color and those that live below the poverty line have been forced to bear a far greater burden from pollution and disproportionately lack access to clean air and water, and healthy food.


Interns spent the day researching and creating presentations on the theme of **Environmental Justice and Racism**. They were also introduced to the Father of Environmental Justice, **Dr. Robert D. Bullard**, and to **Dr. Beverly Wright's** work with the **Deep South Center for Environmental Justice**.

As our interns are encouraged to make a difference and make their school more sustainable, they are also taught to look at climate change through a societal lens.

## Intern Presentations

**WHO IS DR. ROBERT BULLARD?**

- THE FATHER OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
- AWARD WINNING AUTHOR
- FORMER DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS FOR TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
- US MARINE CORP VETERAN
- IN 2018, NAMED ONE OF THE 22 CLIMATE TRAILBLAZERS BY THE GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT
- IN 2019, APOLITICAL NAMED HIM AS AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE FOR CLIMATE POLICY.

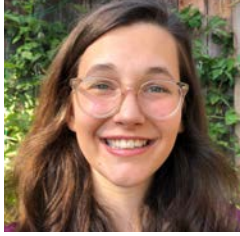


**In what ways do you think Juneteenth is related to Environmental Justice?**

- For decades, communities of color have been forced to bear a far greater burden from pollution, and lack of access to food and consumer products free from ingredients that are inferior and harm their health.
- In many ways, Juneteenth represents how justice in the U.S. has repeatedly been delayed for black people, and access to a healthy, safe environment is no exception.
- Furthermore, historical racism and economic inequality are major factors behind these disparities, as polluting facilities and areas with heavy traffic are generally located near communities of color.




# So, Who Are These Interns?



COMPTON  
EARLY COLLEGE



## All 16 Interns Represent a Wide Range of High Schools:

### 10 Students from Compton, CA

- 3 students from Dominguez HS
- 2 students from Centennial HS
- 2 students from Compton HS
- 3 student from Compton Early College

### 2 Students from Hayward, CA

- 2 students from Hayward HS

### 2 Students from Oakland, CA

- 2 students from Skyline HS

### 2 Students from Niantic, IL

- 2 students from Sangamon Valley HS

7

High Schools

4

Cities



7

Sophomores

5

Juniors

4

Seniors



# What did these 16 interns learn from our internship?

During our 7-week program, each intern was trained in specific professional and knowledge-based skills. These skills helped interns build their resumes and prepared them for the professional workforce.

## Professional Skills include:

- How to design and present professional presentation slides
- How to lead a club or student team in performing regular classroom energy audits
- How to manage a Zoom call


## Knowledge Skills include:

- How to educate a school community about energy use and the implications of individual behavior.
- How to promote energy-saving behaviors among students and staff, such as turning off lights and appliances when not in use.

### How Outreach Can Help


**Promote benefits of being energy efficient.**

Use daily announcements, posters, and social media to remind students and staff ways to save energy.



**Organize Competitions and Community events**


Motivates students to take part in something they may not be interested in at first.




Source: [www.energystar.gov/buildings/facility-owners-and-managers/existing-buildings/communicate-your-success/energy-star-communications-toolkit](http://www.energystar.gov/buildings/facility-owners-and-managers/existing-buildings/communicate-your-success/energy-star-communications-toolkit)

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**Asian Elephant ( fewer than 50,000)**





Live Presentations

# Passion Project Collaboration

As has become tradition in Go Green Initiative internships, interns had the opportunity to spend a portion of their work hours on a Passion Project. These Passion Projects gave interns the space and time to research and collaborate on an environmentally-themed presentation of their choosing.

This year, the Multi-City Interns and Pleasanton GGI Interns met jointly on Zoom to work on passion projects together. Together, all **54 interns** created **10 presentations** on topics such as: biodiversity loss, carbon emissions, plastic pollution, technology combating climate change, and water/ocean pollution. Not only did interns have the chance to research topics outside the scope of their internship project, but they also got the opportunity to learn how to complete and present a project with new team members under 2 hours.

## Passion Project Zoom Call

### Introduction to Climate Change



- **Climate:** the weather conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period (30 years)
- **Weather:** the state of the atmosphere at a place and time as regards heat, dryness, sunshine, wind, rain, etc
- **Climate Change vs Global Warming**
- **Climate Change:** the long-term heating of Earth's climate system observed since the pre-industrial period (between due to human activities, primarily fossil fuel burning, which increases heat-trapping greenhouse gas levels in Earth's atmosphere.



# Guest Speaker Profiles

## Micah Ali, President, Compton Unified School District School Board

"[These interns are] championing energy efficiency not just at the school but also in the community. We are sparking and igniting at a grassroots level...driving for change. I am very impressed by the students, but I am not surprised as this is what Compton embodies."



## Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Energy & Sustainability Manager at Oakland Unified

Brendan Havenar-Daughton spoke to our interns about the key decisions and life experiences that led to his current career at OUSD. Starting from his college pathway to the various jobs and programs he led, Brendan helped our interns understand what it's like to work within the environmental education industry.

"Don't cut yourself short, don't underestimate the power of your voice. There are a lot of folks that support you, keep on fighting!"

**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

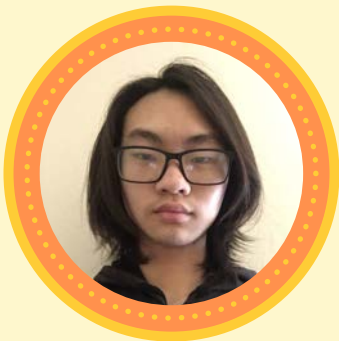
## Allan Garde, Asst. Supt., Business Service, Hayward Unified

Allan Garde visited the interns to speak on what it takes to make improvements to a school district, such as gaining buy-in from stakeholders, creating a Strategic Plan, and developing various district-wide and student-aligned goals. Included in the conversation were budgets, bonds, and project timelines.

"...It's important to speak your mind and advocate for your peers. [By being] a part of this intern program, you are taking a leadership role [in] how you want your schools and your environment to be improved on... By utilizing your knowledge [and] resources, you can be that advocate."



# A Word From Our Interns



## Did this internship experience influence the direction of courses you will choose or your career path?

"Yes, as I have learned a lot about the impacts of green energy and how it affects our environment today. I can use this new perspective in my future career." - **Zi Yan Wu**

"Yes, this internship experience [influenced] the direction of courses I'll choose. To elaborate, when I first started this internship I knew some things about environmentalism and sustainability, so I really didn't think about a future with these topics. Now I'm really interested to making a change and I would really like to pursue this as a career choice"- **Yahir Zarate**

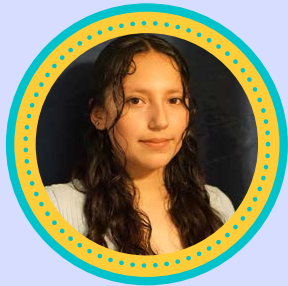


## What was the most beneficial portion of your internship experience?



"The most beneficial portion was just having to present and learn new things everyday and come up with slides on the spot. Another thing that was beneficial was the information being taught because I never really [paid] any mind to what habits I had." - **Katherine Ramirez**

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR



"This internship helped me gain the biggest benefit, experience. It wasn't the interest of being paid, for me it was the experience that came with it, it felt very real and I learned so much about myself. This experience will surely work in my advantage in the future."- **Emily Navarro**



"I am just thankful for this opportunity I received because I learned a lot and I met great people. Also, I was able to strengthen my skills." - **Noely Recinos**

To learn about the Go Green Initiative Summer Internship program visit:

[gogreeninitiative.org](http://gogreeninitiative.org)



Let's stay in touch!

