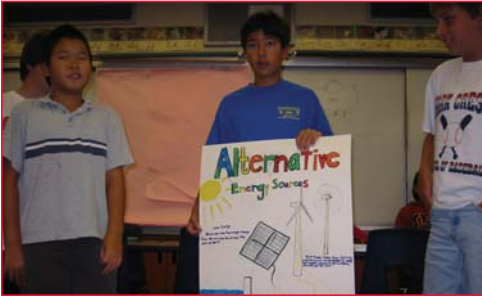




## Teacher E-News

December 2004

### Did You Know?!?



According to the American Solar Energy Society, enough sunlight falls on the earth's surface each minute to meet world energy demand for an entire year.

### In This Issue

- > Did You Know?!?
- > PEAK Flex Your Power Now! Artwork Contest Winners
- > PEAK Welcomes Corona-Norco Unified School District
- > PEAK Best Practices - Community as a Classroom

PEAK is a project of  
The Energy Coalition,  
in partnership with  
Southern California Edison  
and The Gas Company.

*The Energy Coalition*  
15615 Alton Parkway, Suite 245  
Irvine, CA 92618

949.701.4646  
FAX 949.701.4644  
www.energycoalition.org

Sign up to receive this newsletter  
by email: <http://peakstudents.net>

With the winter holiday break approaching and the end of the fall semester in sight, it's a perfect time to reflect on the many accomplishments to date of PEAK teachers, schools, and most importantly, PEAK students.

This fall, three new school districts have joined PEAK - San Bernardino City Unified School District, Hermosa Beach City School District, and most recently, Corona-Norco Unified School District, whose story is highlighted below.

In October, PEAK sponsored a poster contest to encourage youth to educate others about how to use the PEAK Student Energy Actions to respond to California's new power alert system, Flex Your Power NOW! Read on for details about the winners and their artwork.

The poster contest is just one way PEAK encourages youth to take the message of smart energy management into their communities to educate others. In PEAK, we call this Community as a Classroom, and some of the PEAK team's best practices are listed below.

Congratulations to all of our educators who have participated in PEAK activities this fall!

Sarah Mills

Program Manager, PEAK Student Energy Actions

## PEAK Flex Your Power Now! Artwork Contest Winners

With five Southern California school districts participating and over 300 entries pouring into The Energy Coalition's office, it is safe to say that the PEAK Flex Your Power Now! Poster Contest was a huge success! Students were able to creatively share what they have learned through PEAK to educate others about how



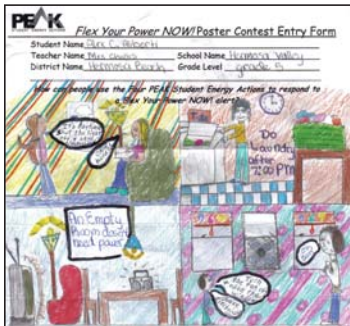
to respond to a Flex Your Power Now! alert. The entries ranged from colorful to satirical to comical and far surpassed expectations, making choosing winners a difficult task. But in the end, 19 winners were selected, including our first-prize winners from each district.

- Desert Sands Unified School District - Natalie Gramer from Mr. Kesel's class at Carter Elementary
- Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District - Maki Kubota from Mrs. O'Brien's class at Lincoln Middle School
- Moreno Valley Unified School District - Bernadette Salas from Mr. Noriega's class at Sunnymead Elementary
- Hermosa Beach City School District - Alex Aliberti from

Continued on Page 2

Mrs. Challis's class at Hermosa Valley Elementary

- San Bernardino City Unified School District - Jazmin Fuentes from Mr. Stiffler's class at Lincoln School



Special recognition ceremonies for all of the winners are currently being held during City Council and School Board meetings, during which first-prize winners receive their new beach cruiser bicycle and runners-up

receive a \$20 gift certificate. In addition, each winner is awarded a Certificate of Achievement signed by their Mayor and Ted Flanigan, Managing Director of The Energy Coalition.

Winning artwork, which is currently on display in the lobbies of each City Hall, is also available in PDF format and will be posted on the PEAK website.

The Energy Coalition would like to thank everyone who contributed to making the PEAK Flex Your Power NOW! Poster Contest so successful.



## PEAK Best Practices - Community as a Classroom

One of the greatest benefits of the PEAK program is its focus on applied learning both in and out of the classroom. Studies show that student learning retention rates average 90% when students apply their knowledge to teach others (National Training Laboratories, Bethel, Maine). PEAK encourages educators to use the PEAK Community as a Classroom model to their advantage to educate youth in creative and rewarding ways. Here are a few examples of activities that have taken place this fall:

- Santa Monica has involved student volunteers from their Police Activity League to help inform multi-family home residents of the advantages of participating in energy efficiency Tune-Ups offered by the Community Energy Partnership
- Irvine students from Plaza Vista School held a community Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb sale during the city's Community Fair
- Many PEAK students in Santa Monica have reached out to small businesses in their community by spreading energy efficiency tips and ideas
- In San Bernardino, students volunteered during the Route 66 Rendezvous to educate visitors about the energy and cost savings associated with plugging into energy-efficient technology, like CFLs
- This Saturday, December 4th, 30 student volunteers from Corona High School will help community members trade in their old, inefficient halogen lamps for new, energy-efficient fluorescent lamps during the city's Torchiere Trade-in event

Community involvement is a great way to teach the ethic of smart energy management and is an essential part of a successful program. To learn more about how to get students involved in their communities through PEAK or to share your ideas, contact Sarah Mills at [smills@energycoalition.org](mailto:smills@energycoalition.org) or (949) 701-4646.

## PEAK Welcomes Corona-Norco Unified School District

PEAK is happy to welcome Corona-Norco Unified School District. With support from Superintendent Lee Pollard, Assistant Superintendent Anita Lavelle, and Diane Nussbaum, Administrative Director of Curriculum, CNUSD will be adopting and fully implementing the PEAK Student Energy Actions program as their standard (PACE) unit on Electricity and Magnetism in 4th grade. The district also plans to integrate PEAK into its 6th-grade Natural Resources unit and list PEAK activities as best practices for 5th-grade math.

The district will pilot the program with one 4th-grade teacher from each of its 27 elementary schools during the third trimester of the

2004/2005 school year, with full implementation in every 4th-grade classroom starting during the first trimester of the 2005/2006 school year. The pilot group of CNUSD educators will attend a PEAK Teacher Orientation and Training on February 10, 2005.

Corona-Norco Unified School District will be the largest school district participating in the PEAK Student Energy Actions program within the Community Energy Partnership, surpassing Irvine Unified School District, which teaches the program in its 23 elementary schools.

Welcome aboard!