

[Name of School Principal]

[Date]

[Name of School]

[Address of School]

Dear [name of school principal],

My name is [name] and I am a [insert year in school]. I am writing to you on behalf of [student group(s)/the student body] to discuss what we can do to make our school more environmentally friendly in the face of the climate crisis. Climate change impacts the environment as we know it and presents a public health issue that can greatly affect our community. Schools provide safe, accessible places for students to learn and work to address these issues.

Each day after lunch, trash bins are filled with food scraps. This food waste then is incinerated, where it generates greenhouse gases that accelerate the rate of climate change. In fact, food waste accounts for approximately 25% of solid waste disposed of in Massachusetts. Composting diverts this waste from incineration/landfill and instead adds nutrients back to the soil. Compost can then be used to grow more food, creating a closed loop system.

Composting also has many benefits for [school name]. It can create greater learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom in multiple classes, such as environmental science, chemistry, and biology. It also instills responsibility, teamwork, and stewardship, and establishes our school as an institution that is advocating for its students' futures.

In order to protect students' health and address climate change, we urge you to support the implementation of a composting program at [school name]. Composting is currently being carried out in schools around Massachusetts and is a feasible and economical approach to making our schools more environmentally friendly.

In 2022, Brookline's Department of Public Works (DPW) created a School Compost Guide to support Brookline Public Schools in launching and/or expanding composting programs. This Guide contains a detailed implementation plan, along with a variety of resources for schools to use. I firmly believe that, with the support of the DPW, we can implement a successful composting program here at [school name].

Launching a compost program is a necessary step towards becoming a more sustainable institution and can create a pathway toward even larger sustainability achievements. I respectfully request that you meet with [student group(s)/names of people interested in launching a composting program] to discuss the possibility of implementing a school composting program at [school name].

Thank you for your time. Please let me know when you might be available to meet. I look forward to continuing this conversation and discussing how we can further reduce [school name]'s carbon footprint through composting.

Sincerely,

[Your name(s)]