About the Dave Colburn Green Apple Award

In honor of Dave Colburn, this award is presented annually on Earth Day. The award honors teachers, students, staff, administrators and/or parents for engaging in educational experiences that have a positive impact on the environmental sustainability of a school and community.

About Dave Colburn: A longtime resident of Manhattan, Dave Colburn stands out as a community member and service leader. His commitment to formal education resulted in serving on the USD 383 Board of Education for 16 years, including two terms as President, and providing leadership during some challenging transitions for the district. Colburn’s longtime leadership position at the Pathfinder in Manhattan has allowed him to encourage and support community members in outdoor exploration and recreation and his passion for the outdoors is reflected in his volunteer service in the community. His appreciation for informal education is reflected in his consistent involvement in support of community youth activities and his influence in over 40 years of mentoring student employees at The Pathfinder. Presented annually on Earth Day, this award combines Dave’s commitment to education and the environment by honoring teachers, students, staff, administrators and parents for engaging in educational experiences that have a positive impact on the environmental sustainability of the school and community.

The Green Apple Awardee(s) will be presented with a plaque and a $300 stipend for supplies to directly support/expand their project.

The Awardee will also be honored by KACEE with a reception celebration at a location of the recipient(s) preference.
To be considered for the Dave Colburn Green Apple Award, nominees will be asked to describe a project that they are engaged with which ideally addresses more than one of the following:

- The project supports the Kansas Green Schools program (www.kansasgreenschools.org) and integrates environmental education, green schools and/or contributes to the environmental sustainability of the school, district, or community.
- Examples include but are not limited to projects which address water quality, water conservation, energy conservation, school or community gardens, air quality, outdoor wildlife habitats, outdoor classrooms, or solid waste management.

- Kansas Green School projects should take an integrated, holistic approach and have a plan for sustaining, improving or expanding the project over time.
- May be led by teacher(s), student(s), parent(s), school staff or a team approach and may take place at the classroom, school, multiple schools, district or community level.
- Projects demonstrate broader involvement with others such as administrators, community members, teachers and students.
- Projects demonstrate creativity and innovation with a strong environmental education component.

To apply or nominate, fill out the Dave Colburn Green Apple Award Nomination no later than March 31, 2023.

For more information, contact Rachel Wahle, Kansas Green Schools Coordinator at: rwahle@kacee.org or 785-539-7943.