1.) If your school didn’t have a recycling program, how would you convince your fellow students to become active recyclers and reduce waste? What would your school recycling campaign look like?

A Recycling Campaign At Alhambra High School

At Alhambra High School there is no active recycling program that makes a big difference for the environment. I would try to convince the school to promote and give incentives for bringing reusable objects in school. Students could bring in reusable cups instead of plastic water bottles. This would help lower the amount of plastic water bottles that are being used. Everyday at lunch the school cafeteria gives out a set of plastic straws and plastic sporks. There is no need for straws to be provided since many people can tilt the container and drink out of it. The straws are useless especially in a high school setting and it also leads to much more plastic trash. The plastic straws have no purpose and many of them are found on the ground which leads to the water drainage system and goes to the ocean. Another thing that could be reused is actual silverware that could be washed everyday. Instead of giving out plastic sporks everyday there could be silverware that could be washed. In the cafeteria there are big dishwashers that could wash the silverware everyday and provide the clean silverware to students during lunch. This would lower the amount of plastic we use.

A way to reduce food waste from school’s is to start at the cafeteria where it’s the biggest contributor to food waste. At the schools many of the students do not consume the food that they are given and most of it will end in the trash bins. A way to stop this increase in food waste is to have a food recovery program at the school. This could be used to collect non-perishable food
that students are not eating and collect it. At the end of the day a member from the food recovery program would collect the food and give it back to the community. It could be given to families that do not have enough to eat and the food would be able to go to a good cause instead of going to the trash. Also if the students have perishable food there is an alternative than throwing it away. The students could throw it into a separate container and would go to a bigger compost. The compost could then be used for the school’s gardens and make it better since it would be the school's own compost.

Using these recycling campaign ideas would help to lower the amount of food waste that goes into landfills unused. The food would be able to go to people that need it more and would not just go to the trash. Also using reusable items would lower the amount of plastic waste a lot. There would be no need for plastic straws and plastic utensils if the schools used silverware and washed them everyday. If the schools implement these programs it could lower the amount of waste that goes into the landfills and also into nature.