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| **Project Title: *** | Compost Education Program |
| **To be eligible for the grant, projects should be specifically tied to one or more of the following topics (Choose all that apply) *** | Waste Reduction<br>Recycling and the 3 Rs |
| **Amount Requested: *** | $499 |
| **Teacher / Leader's Name: *** | Robert Carroll |
| **School or Organization Name & Complete Address: *** | Norfolk Academy<br>1585 Wesleyan Drive<br>Norfolk, Virginia 23502 |
| **Subject / Grade / Age Range: *** | 4th and 5th, 8-11 |
| **Number of Children: *** | 170 |

**Goals & Objectives: ***

The goal of the Compost Education Project is to teach my 170 4th and 5th grade students how composting works through a hands on, year-long composting project. We will fill the composter with food waste students bring from home, observe the composting process over time and monitor compost temperature, moisture level and pH. We will send bags of finished humus home with students until we begin our school organic garden in 2017.

The Norfolk Academy refectory (cafeteria) serves lunch to all 1,200 students and staff daily. The refectory collects all food scraps, cuttings and leftovers. This material is picked up by a composting program based outside of Richmond. An average of between 3 and 4 tons of material per month is kept out of the wastestream and turned into compost humus. The lower school students are very good at separating their food scraps from recycling and garbage, however they do not understand what happens to the food scraps. I would use a large tumbler style compost unit to educate my 4th and 5th grade students how the composting process works and to demonstrate how they could compost at home. Large tumbler composting units are more expensive, but I have found that larger tumbling compost systems such as this work the best and are effective at keeping animals out which is very important in a school setting.

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| **Project Timeline:** * | Spring 2016: Purchase and put composter together.<br>Begin first batch of compost before school ends so our first batch of finished compost will be ready at the start of the 2016 school year.<br>Fall 2016: Begin a new batch of compost using material students bring in from home. Begin monitoring compost temperature, moisture level, pH, air temperature and soil temperature and making observations of the compost. The two-chamber composter system allows students to observe compost at different stages of the process. Work to create up to 16 bushels of finished compost every semester. Send finished compost humus home with students to put on plants in their yard.<br>Begin using finished compost humus in our new organic garden that will be open when the Lower School renovation is completed sometime in 2016 - 2017. |
| **Project Budget:** * | $499 for one Two Chamber Compost Tumbler with Crank. Each chamber has a 9 bushel (84 gallon) capacity.<br><br>All other material for the Compost Education Program such as compost thermometers, buckets, pH meters, soil moisture meters, soil thermometers etc. will be purchased using Norfolk Academy funds. |
| **Name:** * | Robert Carroll |
| **Email:** * | rcarroll@norfolkacademy.org |
| **Phone Number:** * | (757) 461-6236 |
| **All information in this application is correct. I have reviewed the proposal with my school principal or organizational leader. As a condition of accepting the mini-grant money, I understand that I will be required to complete and submit the project summary form and pictures** | By checking the box and submitting this form, I certify the above. |

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| **from the project upon completion of this project. I will submit my summary report within 14 days of completion.** * | |
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