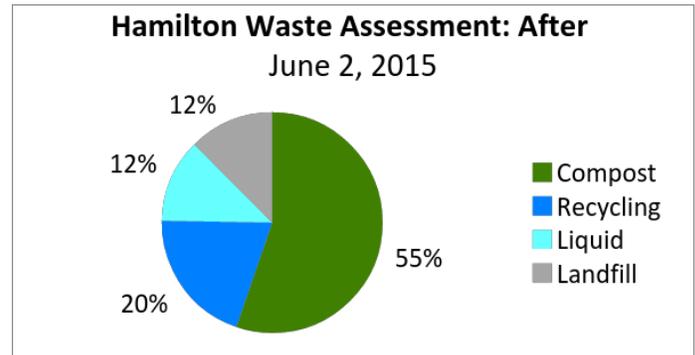
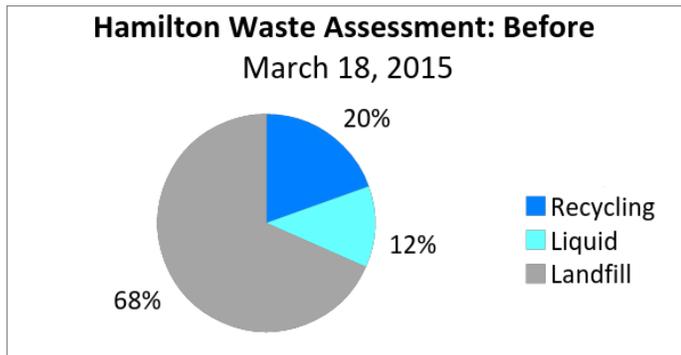


# Hamilton Elementary School Celebrating Composting Success!

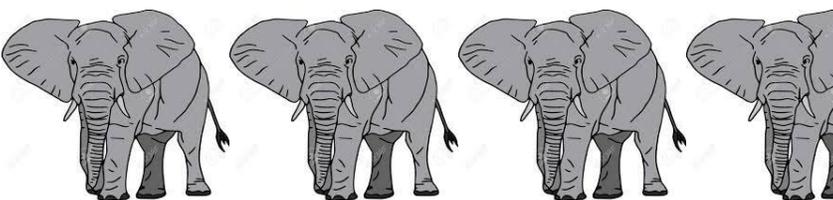


## Hamilton Highlights

The success of the commercial composting program at Hamilton came from the commitment and hard work of many people at the school. Here are a few things that Hamilton did that can help other schools as they start a pilot in the future:

- **Team work** – Hamilton had full representation on their Zero Waste team (administration, teachers, students, kitchen staff, engineer, and custodian) who worked together to make the program successful.
- **Assembly** – Having the assembly on the morning of program launch was a fun way to introduce the new system to the all the students. Student enthusiasm was phenomenal! The assembly also provided an opportunity to introduce the Zero Waste Ambassadors, who did an amazing job guiding lunchroom sorting.
- **Teacher professional development** – Teachers learned ways to achieve zero waste at school and further explore zero waste topics with their students in the classroom.

In one school year, you will keep 3 ¼ elephants' weight out of the landfill (32,859 pounds)!



## What We've Learned So Far From All 5 Schools

We had 5 schools participate in the commercial composting pilot program and learned valuable information from each of these schools. Here are a couple of the highlights:

- Having Zero Waste Ambassadors at each lunch period to help guide sorting every day reduces contamination of compost and recycling;
- Signs need to be very clear and specific to each school;
- There needs to be commitment and support from every staff member, from the kitchen staff to the custodians to the teachers to the students. Each person plays a role in this new system;
- Outside equipment and service are a critical piece of this program – having the right size and number of containers, frequency of pickup, and clear signs so that everyone knows what to put in each container.

Thank you for being a part of commercial composting at CPS!