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## **The Pennsylvania Avenue School Earns the “NJ Beach Bird Award” from the New Jersey Clean Communities Council**

**ATLANTIC CITY – June 23, 2016** – The Pennsylvania Avenue Elementary School received the “NJ Beach Bird” Award from the New Jersey Clean Communities Council (NJCCC) for its upcycling program.

The Pennsylvania Avenue School, serving grades preK-8, teaches about the importance of recycling through its upcycle project, an initiative to teach children to reuse discarded materials, such as water bottles and milk cartons, in a more efficient way.

The school also participates in the state’s Fruit and Vegetable program, providing all children with a variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the school day. Students learn how to plant their own fruits and vegetables, with materials they upcycled to serve as planters.

“We believe that children are never too young to learn about the importance of recycling and upcycling because they are the future of our Earth,” said Pennsylvania Avenue Principal Dr. La’Quetta Small.

“La’Quetta’s program at the Pennsylvania Avenue School is a great way to teach children the importance of keeping our earth clean” said NJCCC Executive Director Sandy Huber. “She inspires all of her students to want to change the world.”

Students from the Pennsylvania Avenue School were also instrumental in a statewide upcycling program that took place at Boardwalk Hall this year. Students helped collect thousands of water bottles that were used to create a sculpture of a Beach Bird, made from the recycled materials. Moreover, the students also named the bird – PASquale – with the PAS representing Pennsylvania Avenue School.

You can see photos of the sculpture, as well as more information about the project, at [NJBeachBird.org](http://NJBeachBird.org)

NJCCC is a comprehensive, statewide litter-abatement program that has served New Jersey residents and visitors for more than 25 years. Learn more at [njclean.org](http://njclean.org).

**PHOTO CAPTION:** Pennsylvania Avenue School Principal Dr. La’Quetta Small accepts the “NJ Beach Bird” Award from NJCCC President Patrick Ryan (right).

