

The Crayon Initiative

Each year, the Kaleidoscope students select a charity they wish to support. This year, the eighth grade students selected the Crayon Initiative. This program was developed when its founder Bryan Ware realized that old crayons are sent to a landfill, but they do not break down over time. He started to collect the crayons from restaurants, businesses, and homes. With the help of volunteers, they sort, melt, and remanufacture new crayons to be distributed to children in hospitals. The students wanted to assist this project because it is both environmentally and kid friendly.



February 15, the KRHS Kaleidoscope students held a working lunch in order to face time with Bryan Ware. It was their opportunity to ask questions, get answers, and share what they are doing to help the cause. Based out of northern California, this business is run entirely with volunteer assistance. The average shipment of crayons they receive is about five to seven pounds of crayons, but they have received pallets loaded with donations. It takes about 103 Crayola crayons to make one pound. Different brands of crayons have different weight. Mr. Ware stated that the red crayons melt the best. When asked what his biggest obstacle was in running this initiative he responded, “funding because shipping costs have gone up.” Besides helping the environment, Mr. Ware said the best part was “talking to the kids at the hospitals” who receive his crayons.



The students then explained how they had created posters to make their school aware that they will be collecting old crayons to donate to the Crayon Initiative. They will be holding a contest to see which class gathers the most crayons. The students have made videos for their web page, sent e-mails to other schools about the program, and prepared an announcement for the faculty meeting to make this event a great success!



If you have any unused crayons lying around, please make sure to bring them in between March 1 and March 15, 2019. Let's all pitch in to help the Kaleidoscope students keep crayons out of our landfill and make a day a little more colorful for children while they are in the hospital.