

THE SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH OFFICE AND THEIR EXEMPLARY GREEN PRACTICES

San Francisco is known for its phenomenal Golden Gate Bridge and for having the second largest Chinatown and the largest and oldest Japantown in the United States. It is home to more than 50 film festivals each year, and some of the world's best wines come from this region. It is also home to one of our Kumon branches, the San Francisco Branch. The Kumon brand is well-known in San Francisco, and we have our amazing Instructors, students, leaders and associates to thank for this. The Kumon Green Team is constantly looking to display the efforts of our associates all over the US, Mexico and Canada.

Kenny Leither is a field consultant in the San Francisco Branch, and when asked about what green initiatives are taking place at that office, he said, *"The San Francisco Branch Office strives to be green in as many of its actions and processes as possible. While recycling as often as we can, we ensure that we are printing double-sided and re-using scrap paper for printing jobs. We encourage one another (and guests to our office) to use glassware for all drinks as opposed to disposable, paper cups. In fact, most staff members have reusable water bottles to cut down on the cleaning of dishes and using water in our office. When dishes do become dirty, we try to wash them on the spot as opposed to running our dishwasher. This helps cut down on the overall water usage. From an electrical standpoint, several of us try to work with*

the blinds open and the lights off. At many times throughout the day, full office lighting is not required to work as the light from outside is sufficient. We will, at times, work with no overhead lights or half-lighting."

In the Kumon Group, we care about saving electricity, recycling paper and other recyclable items, and we are constantly aiming to reduce paper usage. We were happy to learn that many of our global initiatives are taking place in this office. It is important to demonstrate awareness and set a good example to our franchisees, who often come to the office for meetings. Our hope is that the franchisees begin using some of those practices in their centers and at home.

Our Field Consultants spend a lot of time traveling to provide the best customer service to all our franchisees. Regarding this, Kenny shared a green initiative this specific office is using. He said, *"Since many members from our office travel for business and pleasure, we collect as many of the hotel travel toiletries as possible. Once a sufficient amount has been collected, we donate to a shelter or food bank that is chosen by the staff member."*

We applaud the San Francisco Branch not only for broadening and deepening the Kumon Method in their region, but also for caring about our environment and spreading our initiatives. Thank you, San Francisco, for being such an exemplary Kumon Branch Office!

