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Last month, GSNN hosted a tour of Network partner [Discovery Elementary School](#) in Arlington, VA.

We kicked off a week in the Washington, DC area with the third stop on our book tour, awarding Discovery Principal Erin Russo with a GSNN Trailblazer award.

While we were there, we took a tour of Discovery's inspiring facilities.

Everything at Discovery is truly a learning opportunity for the students! Here are some inspiring photos that show what can be achieved in our collective work toward healthy, equitable, and sustainable schools.



*This student-led perishables collection project reminds students that we are accountable to the Earth as well as to one another.*

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*What does a student love more than the unknown behind a closed door? At Discovery, an open-door policy was made for the HVAC room and signs explaining indoor air quality and solar power were added to the space. Students are able to go into a room usually designated for staff and have an exciting, hands-on learning experience.*

Discovery is a public school in a school district where it's the only one of its kind. But we know that shouldn't be the case. Every student deserves to learn in a safe environment designed to care for, educate, and grow the whole child. We believe Discovery is an exemplar of small steps that any school or district (or household or community space!) can make right now to push us toward our future of possibility.



*With a solar-powered, net-positive school building, how could Discovery not include a roof-top classroom? Taking learning from the textbook and weaving it into the culture, the building, and the community is a key part of creating healthy, equitable, and sustainable school environments. Net-zero is one goal, but giving students every opportunity to learn is a bigger one.*

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What all could be possible if we give teachers and students alike the space to **dream**? If we brought **imagination** back into the school environment? What could we achieve if we recreated the education system? How can we ensure our students never stop learning?

These are questions we ask every day here at GSNN. Our mission to give every student a healthy, equitable, and sustainable school is a lofty one, but from great work comes great reward. GSNN fully believes in the power that small steps have in reaching big goals, just like the leaders and teachers at Discovery, and just like you.

So tell us, how will you spend the summer dreaming?



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