## 19. Arai High School

## Let's Protect the Blue Carbon of Kosai City, a City of Manufacturing

Two of our students at Arai high school participated in the 2023 Kosai City Zero Carbon City Council. This led us to begin exploring ways to promote energy conservation and work towards adopting renewable energy practices.

The eelgrass beds distributed in Lake Hamana are called blue carbon ecosystems. They are attracting attention as carbon sinks for the ocean, but we learned that the eelgrass beds themselves are drastically decreasing in numbers.

We listened to stories from the Hamana Fisheries Association, which is working to restore eelgrass beds, and participated as volunteers in an eelgrass preservation event. This made us realize the importance of preserving eelgrass beds.

We won't stop at just learning about eelgrass beds; we will continue to actively engage in activities like beach cleanups and raising awareness about the conservation of eelgrass beds, doing what we can to protect them.



Students observing the eelgrass beds of Lake Hamana