

**SD-42 POLICY: 6530****ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY****PHILOSOPHY:**

The Board of Education ("Board") defines Environmental Sustainability as ~~those business and individual~~ practices that minimize energy and water consumption, ~~and~~ maximize waste diversion, ~~and~~ ~~resulting in utility cost savings and a smaller~~ reduce the school district's carbon footprint, contributing to cost savings and environmental stewardship. ~~for the school district.~~ These ~~savings~~ will be realized through initiatives aimed at creating a culture of conservation, guided by the three R's of sustainability: efforts align with the principles of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle to foster a culture of conservation.

The Board of Education ~~recognizes the importance of e~~ Environmental sustainability ~~in-meeting the needs of the present~~ needs generation without compromising ~~the ability of~~ future generations ~~to meet their own needs.~~ Its success relies on collaboration among

The Board ~~acknowledges that environmental sustainability is a joint responsibility of Trustees, district leaders, administrators, teachers, support staff, and students and support personnel and its success is based on cooperation at all levels.~~

The Board supports ~~opportunities for the school district t~~ initiatives that e reduce operational and life cycle costs, ~~lessen the impact on our domestic energy infrastructure, increase waste diversion, and provide~~ enhance environmental stewardship and support through lower carbon emissions and ~~enhanced opportunities to advance student achievement while~~ .

The Board is ~~committed to environmental sustainability and ensures that every effort is made to conserving~~ energy and natural resources ~~while and~~ exercising sound financial management.

AUTHORITY:

The Board assigns ~~the responsibility for the implement~~ ingation of the Environmental Sustainability this policy to the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer and authorizes ~~Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer~~ them to establish procedures ~~that will~~ to guide ~~the its~~ implementation ~~of this policy.~~

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The Board is committed to:

1. Strategic Resource Management

- Assessing baseline performance, setting goals, and creating an environmental sustainability plan.
- Monitoring and continuously improving the plan within available financial resources.

2. Educational Integration

- Supporting programs that build student skills, knowledge, and attitudes for a sustainability mindset.
- Encouraging awareness of sustainability practices among students and staff.

3. Operational Commitment

- Incorporating environmental and ethical considerations into district operations and decisions.
- Selecting equipment and systems aligned with sustainability goals and utility incentives.
- Engaging vendors to align with the district's sustainability objectives.

4. Communication and Engagement

- Sharing initiatives and consulting with partner groups on new projects, where appropriate.
- Promoting awareness of energy use, waste reduction, and material consumption among all stakeholders.

- ~~A strategic approach to resource management, including assessing baseline performance, setting goals and targets, creating an environmental sustainability plan, and tracking performance.~~
- ~~Monitoring the implementation of the environmental sustainability plan.~~
- ~~The review and continuous improvement of the school districts environmental sustainability plan within the limited financial resources available.~~
- ~~The development, support, and delivery of programs, activities, and initiatives that enable students to develop the skills, knowledge, confidence and attitudes that will help foster a sustainability mindset.~~
- ~~The encouragement of students and staff to be aware of the Environmental Sustainability policy and associated procedures, actions and results.~~
- ~~Communicating environmental sustainability initiatives, and consulting, where appropriate, with partner groups on the implementation of new initiatives.~~
- ~~The encouragement of students and staff to be cognizant of their energy use, waste generation, and material consumption.~~
- ~~The integration of environmentally sustainable and ethical considerations into the operations and business decisions of the school district.~~
- ~~The selection of equipment and systems in alignment with environmental sustainability goals, product incentives and rebates from utility providers.~~
- ~~Making vendors aware of the district's environmental sustainability goals and requiring them to provide evidence of their alignment with these goals, where deemed appropriate.~~

APPROVED: March 10, 2021
UPDATED: January 2025