



Context:

The Board of Education recognizes a world-wide climate emergency is occurring. Environmental sustainability is the responsibility of trustees, senior staff, principals/vice principals, teachers, students, support staff, parents and community.

Policy Statement:

The Board will take action to reduce operational and life-cycle costs, lessen the impact on our domestic energy infrastructure, and provide environmental stewardship through lower carbon emissions.

The Board will ensure that every effort is made to conserve energy and natural resources while exercising sound financial management.

The Board will provide a strong educational approach to understanding the climate emergency and environmental health.

The Board will provide environmental stewardship through lower carbon emissions, education, and recycling such as planting and saving trees when possible to promote a green environment.

Guiding Principles:

- a. A strategic approach to energy management, including assessing baseline performance, setting goals and targets, creating an energy management plan, tracking performance and communicating results.
- b. The review and continuous improvement of the school district's energy management plan within the financial resources available.
- c. The development and delivery of educational programs, activities and initiatives that enable students to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes that will help sustain the environment and encourage environmental stewardship.
- d. Communicating environmental sustainability initiatives, and consulting with partner groups on the implementation of new initiatives.
- e. The expectation of students and staff to actively reduce their energy use and material consumption.
- f. The integration of environmentally sustainable considerations into the operations, educational and business decisions of the school district.
- g. The selection of equipment and systems in consideration of energy issues, product incentives and rebates from utility providers.

Definitions:

Sustainable practices are those business, educational, and individual practices that result in a smaller carbon footprint and enhanced presence in our curriculum aimed at creating a culture of conservation.

References:

- [Administrative Procedures to Board Policy 100: Sustainable Practices](#)
- [Sustainable Schools Best Practices Guide](#), Ministry of Education and Child Care

Dates of Adoption/Amendments:

Adopted: 1992.02.25

Amended: 1994.02.22: 2016.08.31: 2020.09.22: 2023.09.26: **2024.02.27**



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Purpose

These Administrative Procedures will support [Board Policy 100: Sustainable Practices](#) in order to develop the collective responsibility to protect and conserve the environment.

Requirements

1. The Secretary-Treasurer (or designate) shall establish an energy management plan that includes, but is not limited to, the following components:
 - a. Integration of environmentally sustainable considerations into the School District's business decisions related to:
 - i. Lighting
 - ii. Heating, ventilation, air conditioning systems
 - iii. Renovation and new construction
 - iv. Recycling programs
 - b. Purchasing policies that encourage suppliers to meet or exceed the District's environmental management standards.
 - c. Mechanisms to regularly assess and continually improve the District's environmental sustainability performance.
 - d. Creating, managing and monitoring a carbon reduction plan in keeping with provincial programs and expectations of government.
2. The Director of Operations (or designate) will be responsible for managing all expenditures, and for formulating and implementing the energy management plan.
3. The Director of Operations (or designate) will be responsible for tracking and monitoring energy consumption, and for coordinating energy management and sustainability activities with principals/vice principals, teachers, support staff and students.
4. The school principal will facilitate energy management programs and procedures at the school. Efficient use of the various energy systems of each school will be the joint responsibility of the principal and the Director of Operations. This includes the closing of windows and doors during when the HVAC is required, turning off of lights, and the removal of extraneous appliances.
5. Principals and vice-principals will be responsible for ensuring that climate action is a consideration for field trips in keeping with Board [Policy 502: Field Experiences \(Trips\)](#).
6. Teachers and support staff are encouraged to integrate environmental themes at every level and provide the opportunity for students to participate in energy management initiatives.



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7. The District shall encourage the use of locally developed Environmental Studies courses and/or units in schools and learning activities that utilize a wide range of appropriate local environmental field trips.

References

- [Board Policy 100: Sustainable Practices](#)
- [Board Policy 502: Field Experiences \(Trips\)](#)
- [Sustainable Schools Best Practices Guide, Ministry of Education and Child Care](#)

Dates of Adoption and Amendments:

Adopted: 2016.08.31

Ammended: 2020.09.22: 2022.10.25: 2023.09.26: **2024.02.27**