

POLICY

Ocean City Board of Education

Section: Property

7461. SUSTAINABILITY IN SCHOOLS

Date Created: June, 2017

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7461- SUSTAINABILITY IN SCHOOLS

The Ocean City Board of Education recognizes the importance of minimizing the District's use of natural resources, providing a high-quality environment that promotes health and productivity and the effective management of our fiscal resources.

The Board of Education agrees that the Superintendent or designee will be responsible for developing a resource management program that includes strategies for implementing effective and sustainable resource practices, exploring renewable and clean energy technologies, reducing energy and water consumption, minimizing utility costs, reducing the amount of waste of consumable materials, encouraging recycling and green procurement practices, and promoting conservation principles.

A. Purpose

The intent of this Policy is to provide a healthful learning/working environment, which contributes to protecting, conserving, and enhancing the nation's environmental resources while providing long-term savings to taxpayers through lower operating costs.

B. Sustainability Provisions

The Ocean City School District Board of Education will encourage the following sustainability practices throughout the School District:

- All new construction projects and major modernization/renovation projects be designed and constructed to a minimum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification or equal.
- Minimize the amount of school waste sent to the landfill and implement a district-wide recycling program including, but not limited to, all school building, administration, and outdoor facilities and events.
- Heighten awareness about the importance of environmental sustainability throughout the District through the curriculum and the promotion of environmental programs and initiatives.
- Promote the use of "Green Seal" certified cleaning products in conjunction with environmentally sustainable cleaning practices throughout the District
- Continue to encourage the use of innovative energy management practices and develop new programs that monitor and regulate energy consumption.
- Continue to purchase Energy Star-rated appliances and electronics when possible.
- Continue the no-idle policy for school buses while encouraging the purchase of fuel-efficient vehicles for all fleet transportation.

- Encourage the adoption of a Building Maintenance Plan that is committed to addressing indoor environmental problems in a proactive manner.
- Specify, when possible, 30% recycled content paper in lieu of standard office paper for all purchases as long as this is cost neutral.
- Incorporate methods to reduce paper consumption and save energy by electronic filing, two-sided copying, web-based conferencing, and the transfer of data via online portals.
- Promote the use of low impact fertilizers and Pest Management Controls on all school grounds.

Adopted: 21 June 2017

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1886 Hinds Road, Suite 1, Toms River, NJ 08753
ph: (732)255-1500 fax: (732)255-1502