

## **BUSINESS**

### **Green School Operations**

The Board of Trustees believes that all citizens have a responsibility to be stewards of the environment and desires to integrate environmental accountability into all district operations. The Superintendent or designee shall promote green school practices that conserve natural resources, reduce the impact of district operations on the environment, and protect the health of students, staff, and community.

The Superintendent or designee may involve district and site administrators and operations and maintenance staff; representatives of local governmental agencies, utilities, solid waste and recycling companies, and community organizations; health professionals; and/or others as appropriate in the assessment of current district operations and the development of strategies to improve the environmental impact of district operations.

In selecting and prioritizing strategies, the Superintendent or designee shall give consideration to the initial cost, long-term potential cost savings, quality and performance of the product or service, health impacts, and environmental considerations.

Such strategies may include, but not be limited to:

1. Reducing energy and water consumption and exploring renewable and clean energy technologies
2. Establishing recycling programs in district facilities
3. Reducing the consumption of disposable materials, by reusing materials and by using electronic rather than paper communications when feasible
4. Purchasing and using environmentally preferable products and services whenever practical, including, but not limited to, products that:
  - a. Minimize environmental impacts, toxins, pollutants, odors, and hazards
  - b. Contain postconsumer recycled content
  - c. Are durable and long-lasting
  - d. Conserve energy and water
  - e. Produce a low amount of waste
5. Using least toxic, independently certified green cleaning products when feasible, as well as high-efficiency cleaning equipment that reduces the need to use chemicals

6. Providing professional development to maintenance staff in the proper use, storage, and disposal of cleaning supplies
7. Focusing on green building standards, sustainability, and student health in facilities construction and modernization projects, including decisions about site selection, building design, and landscaping and grounds
8. Providing fresh, unprocessed, organic food in the district's food services program
9. Providing instruction to students on the importance of the environment and involving students in the implementation and evaluation of green school activities and projects as appropriate

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8700-8707 Environmental education

17070.96 Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1996, consideration of high performance standards

17072.35 New construction grants; use for designs and materials for high performance schools

32370-32376 Recycling paper

33541 Environmental education

101012 Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006, allocations

PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE

12400-12404 Environmentally preferable purchasing

PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

25410-25421 Energy conservation assistance

40050-40063 Integrated waste management act

42630-42647 Schoolsite source reduction and recycling

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

1859.70.4 Funding for high performance incentive grants

1859.71.6 Additional grant for high performance incentive, new construction

1859.77.4 Additional grants for high performance incentive, site and modernization

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

14010 Standards for school site selection

Policy Adopted: May 17, 2011