



Policy 4060
THE ENVIRONMENT

Adopted: 2006-04-11	Reviewed:	Amended: 2010-01-12
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POLICY

SUBJECT: **THE ENVIRONMENT**

The Board of Education believes that the maintenance of our environment is necessary to the quality of our lives. Further, it believes that the District and its schools have the responsibility of fostering and reinforcing positive environmental concepts, concepts that will enhance the relationship between living things and their natural and built surroundings.

The introduction of these concepts must begin early in the life of each child in order to develop a responsible environmental ethic, which will be sustained throughout life.



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REGULATIONS

SUBJECT: **THE ENVIRONMENT**

As part of the Board's commitment to the environment and pursuant to Bill 44 – 2007: *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*, the District will undertake the following:

A. Environmental Practices

1. Purchasing

- a) Where feasible, products shall be purchased that are manufactured from recycled materials.
- b) Where products are similar in function, the one that is the least harmful to the environment shall be purchased.

2. Waste Management

- a) The District shall substantially reduce paper waste.
- b) The District shall foster environmental practices based on the concepts: reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- c) Where feasible, waste products shall be recycled.
- d) The District shall encourage the participation of staff, students and parents in the recycling program.

3. Facilities Management

- a) The District shall practice energy conservation in the operation of all facilities and equipment.
- b) The District shall use, where feasible, environmentally friendly products for all facilities, equipment and grounds.
- c) In all instances when purchasing custodial products, the District will purchase the product that is biodegradable and eliminate the use of cleaners that contain toxins and ecological damaging products.
- d) Where necessary and cost effective, energy saving retro-fits will be considered to reduce energy consumption.

4. Transportation

- a) Anti-idling policy will be adhered to on school property.
- b) District vehicles will be regularly checked and maintained for optimal operating efficiency.

- c) Proper driving will be reinforced to minimize impact on the environment.
- d) Vehicle purchases will be reviewed with consideration of impact on the environment.
- e) Carpooling is encouraged whenever possible.

B. Environmental Management

- 1. The District expects consideration of environmental impact in the planning of all operational and educational programs.
- 2. The District expects school-based leadership in environmental education at each school.
- 3. The District shall respond to identified environmental education needs as resources permit, including such measures as:
 - a) providing appropriate environmental resources to schools;
 - b) providing instructional assistance and in-service to school personnel;
 - c) coordinating appropriate community-District environmental initiatives.
- 4. The District will endeavour to work with community and government agencies in supporting good environmental practices.