

Business and Non-instructional Operations

Energy and Water Management

Sustainability is a process of systems' improvements that recognize the connection between the environment and our social responsibility, with the goal of environmental protection.

The GUSD Energy and Water Management Program encompasses elements of community awareness, behavioral changes, conserving resources, improved building designs, and increased environmental awareness education.

The Board of Education is committed to reducing the District's usage of electricity, natural gas, and water to conserve natural resources and to save money to support other identified priorities. In this regard, the Superintendent or designee shall establish and maintain an Energy and Water Management Program which shall include strategies designed to provide for the more efficient use of electrical, gas, water, and natural resources.

Additionally, the Superintendent or designee shall:

- A. Encourage all management, certificated, classified staff, and students to conserve energy at all District facilities. All staff and students will be expected to assist the District in conserving energy and water.
- B. Analyze the effect of utility rate increases on the District budget and develop and implement necessary contingency plans.
- C. Analyze specific site usage patterns and work cooperatively with site administration and staff to identify and implement specific conservation measures.
- D. Establish and maintain a working Sustainability Program that specifies District standards regarding energy use and conservation techniques based on industry standards.
- E. Inspect District facilities and operations and make recommendations for maintenance and capital expenditures which may help the District achieve the more efficient use of energy and reduce irrigation needs.
- F. Identify funding opportunities and incentive programs to assist the District in achieving its conservation goals.
- G. Consider alternative energy sources as may be appropriate.
- H. Periodically report to the Board on the District's progress in meeting its conservation and resource management goals.

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The Superintendent's designee will coordinate the District's energy tracking, reporting, and conservation efforts including:

The District and school-site plans to conserve resources shall address energy and water use, including plans for:

- A. Reducing energy use during high-peak hours
- B. Reducing lighting and equipment use when facilities are otherwise closed
- C. Shutting down facility and classroom equipment when not in use

The following operations shall also be reviewed to further the District's Sustainability goals:

- A. Educational programs
- B. Classroom and building management and maintenance
- C. Food services and equipment maintenance
- D. Landscaping selection and irrigation
- E. Transportation services and maintenance
- F. New construction
- G. Administrative operations
- H. Use of facilities by outside groups

To enlist the support which is essential to achieving the District's Energy and Water Management Program goals, the principal at each site shall:

- A. Solicit input from staff, students, and parents/guardians related to District energy and water use.
- B. Develop strategies designed to ensure cooperation from students and staff in all conservation efforts.

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C. Recognize those who reduce energy and water use.

To assist the District in reducing the discharge of pollutants into the water system from storm water runoff, the Superintendent or designee shall verify new construction contractors implement a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).

Legal Reference: Education Code, Sections 41422; 46392  
Public Resources Code 25410-25421

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