

Policy 3511: Energy And Water Management

Status: ADOPTED

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The Board of Trustees recognizes the environmental and financial benefits that can be derived from conserving energy, water, and other natural resources, preparing for extreme weather and other natural events, and providing an environment that promotes the health and well-being of students and staff. To support district goals for energy and water management, the Superintendent or designee shall develop a resource management program which may include strategies for implementing effective and sustainable resource use practices, exploring the use of renewable and clean energy technology and/or sources, reducing energy and water consumption, and promoting conservation principles in the educational program.

The Superintendent or designee may solicit input from staff, students, and parents/guardians regarding the district's resource management program. The Superintendent or designee may provide staff and students with training and guidance on best practices to achieve the district's goals, and may establish a reward program to recognize outstanding accomplishments.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly inspect district facilities, monitor operations, and make recommendations for maintenance and repairs which may help the district reach its conservation and management goals and improve efficiency.

The Superintendent or designee may make every effort to identify funding opportunities and cost-reducing incentive programs to help the district achieve its conservation and management goals. The district may coordinate with other local or regional entities to capitalize on their expertise and maximize the efficient use of resources, such as through joint or shared use agreements.

The Superintendent or designee may regularly report to the Board on the district's progress in meeting its conservation and resource management goals.

Storm Water Management

To the extent practicable, the district shall reduce the discharge of pollutants into the water system in order to minimize the threat to water quality from storm water runoff.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district complies with storm water discharge standards specified by any applicable General Permit coverage required by law, including all requirements of the Construction General Permit issued by the State Water Resources Control Board for any project that disturbs one acre or more of soil. (40 CFR 122.34).

The Superintendent or designee may develop a storm water management plan that complies with the provisions of the applicable permit and describes best management practices, design strategies, measurable goals, and timetables for implementation. The plan and a resolution authorizing its implementation shall be submitted to the Board for approval. (40 CFR 122.34)

For all projects, the district shall comply with any city or county ordinance that regulates drainage improvements and conditions. (Government Code 53097)

Emergency Interruption of Services

The Superintendent or designee may develop a plan to minimize disruption to the educational program in the event of power outages or other emergency interruption of utility services. The plan may include actions to be taken to facilitate student and staff safety, administrative control of operations, protection of equipment, effective communications, and coordination with local fire, police, and emergency personnel and utility service providers.
