

Policy 3511: Energy And Water Management

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 12/07/2011 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 12/07/2011

It is the policy of the Governing Board that the district wisely manage the use of natural resources and implements an energy management conservation program that promotes a joint responsibility of the board, administration, faculty, staff, students, and support personnel. The goal of this policy is to create and maintain sustainable, healthy school environments through a long-term resource management plan and to become a nationwide institutional leader in energy management and conservation as part of our social responsibility to respect our natural resources.

The district schools will model environmental stewardship by instituting a resource conservation management plan to:

- Reduce the use of energy, water and other natural resources and encourage recycling
- Educate students, teachers and staff about the importance of conserving natural resources.
- Lessen environmental damage attributable to natural resources consumption.

The district guidelines for temperature ranges for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning in district facilities are:

Heating Season Occupied Set Points: 68 degrees to 72 degrees Fahrenheit

Unoccupied Set Point: 55 degrees Fahrenheit

Cooling Season Occupied Set Points: 74 degrees to 78 degrees Fahrenheit

Unoccupied Set Point: 85 degrees Fahrenheit

The district's Standards for Lighting in district facilities are:

Lighting shall be high efficiency fluorescent, LED, or High Energy Output whenever practicable.

Lighting shall only used when illumination serves a purpose that supports the district's mission.

The district's standards for water use are:

Water use will have a purpose that supports the district's mission.

System leaks will be repaired in a timely manner.

VCUSD will act to make resource conservation an integral part of the physical operation of the school district and of the school curriculum. The practice of discarding materials used in school facilities is wasteful of natural resources, energy and money. It is also the function of the schools to set an example of stewardship of our natural resources and to develop responsible citizenship in our students.

The district will be expected to do the following things as part of the VCUSD's resource management plan:

1. The district will integrate the concept of resource conservation, including waste reduction and recycling, and energy conservation into the environmental education curriculum at all levels of the school system.
2. The district will decrease the amount of waste of consumable materials by:
 - a. Reduction of the consumption of consumable materials wherever possible.
 - b. Full utilization of all materials prior to disposal.
 - c. Minimization of the use of non-biodegradable products wherever possible.
3. The district will cooperate with, and participate in, recycling efforts being made by the City of Vallejo, Solano County and other local agencies. As systems for the recovering of waste and recycling are developed within the City and County, the school district will participate by appropriately separating and allowing recovery of recyclable waste products.

4. The district will purchase, where financially viable, recycled products. The school district will also encourage suppliers, both private and public, to make recyclable products and unbleached paper products available for purchase by public schools.
 5. Representatives of the VCUSD will actively advocate, where appropriate, for resource conservation practices to be adopted at the local, regional, and state levels.
 6. The Energy Education Specialist will develop and implement a comprehensive, people-based conservation program across the district. The district will be guided by the Energy Education Specialist, who will administer the energy conservation and management program on a site by site basis.
 7. Within 30 days, administrative "Energy Guidelines" will be adopted that define the "rules of engagement" in implementing the VCUSD's Energy Conservation Program.
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