GREEN POLICY

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GREEN POLICY

Introduction

The Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) recognizes its goal of providing a safe and caring environment for students, staff, parents and community. The School Board also recognizes the importance of reducing the carbon footprint in its schools and centres and will endeavour to do so by:

a) Encouraging and promoting all stakeholders of the LBPSB to rethink, reduce, recover, reuse, and recycle

b) Encouraging all personnel to promote awareness of the 5 R’s (rethink, reduce, recover, reuse, recycle) and to model ways of reducing pollution, waste and consumption of natural resources

c) Minimizing any negative impact on the environment as well as supporting environmental sustainability for future generations

d) Educating students so that they obtain the necessary knowledge, incentive and tools to contribute to the environment’s preservation and enhancement

Aims and Objectives

The LBPSB, in keeping with this goal, encourages:

a) Education and training for both staff and students that focuses on developing an appreciation of nature and a commitment to stewardship of the earth

b) Students to develop an awareness of the ecological impact of events upon the world

c) The acquisition of appropriate values, knowledge, and skills that support the preservation of the environment

d) Stakeholders to work jointly with their municipalities (boroughs, towns, cities) and other organizations to manage waste and to develop sustainable projects
Professional Development

The LBPSB will continue to:

a) Develop and provide ongoing environmental awareness learning and training that focus on current environmental best practices for employees

b) Encourage and support local and attainable initiatives of environmentally conscious stakeholder groups

Facilities/Purchasing

The LBPSB commits to emphasize the 5 R’s (rethink, reduce, recover, reuse, recycle) to:

a) Make energy efficient choices to prevent the over-consumption of resources

b) Reduce the production of waste and the release of substances harmful to the environment

c) Manage all resources in an environmentally responsible fashion

d) Utilize the experience and accumulated knowledge of the human resources within the community and those of other competent authorities wherever feasible

e) Maintain the use of environmentally-benign green cleaning practices such as using bio-degradable and non-toxic products wherever feasible

f) Evaluate products and processes with the goal of finding better alternatives to minimize pollution

g) Purchase recycled material whenever feasible
Conclusion

The Lester B. Pearson School Board recognizes that everyone has a fundamental right to a healthy environment and that each stakeholder has a responsibility to contribute to its preservation and enhancement.
ADDENDUM A

ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Council of Commissioners:

a) Review the policy once per mandate

b) Recommend the participation on a standing committee that represents all stakeholders on environmental issues

Administration:

a) Reduce the use of paper by increasing electronic communication and by using recto-verso practices when printing to reduce the size of the document whenever feasible

b) Promote board-wide environmental practices

c) Develop and embed environmental education within the curricula

d) Support student-organized environmental activities and board-wide environmental initiatives

e) Develop and purchase resources that will enhance the teaching of environmental issues

f) Encourage schools and centres to maintain green spaces and to teach respect and appreciation of nature

g) Work towards the elimination of the use of non-recyclable material in all food services
Equipment Services

a) Encourage energy consumption targets and water conservation

b) Include clauses in service contracts which respect the Lester B. Pearson policy

c) Practice due diligent standards with respect to property acquisition and disposal

d) Practice appropriate hazardous materials management

e) Develop partnerships with local municipal and regional authorities for instance to facilitate the planting of trees to compensate for our carbon footprint and the recycling and composting of materials

f) Replace non-repairable old toilets with low-water use toilets

g) Facilitate waste management and the recycling of paper, plastic, metal, glass and other recyclable materials

Schools

a) Reduce the use of paper by increasing electronic communication and the use of recto-verso copying practices

b) Increase the awareness of environmental issues

c) Develop and implement teaching strategies that promote environmental awareness

d) Promote natural science experiential education

e) Encourage the use of reusable lunch containers (garbage-free lunches)

f) Work towards the elimination of non-recyclable plastics such as polystyrene
Stakeholders

- Promote walking, cycling and car-pooling
- Make positive ecological choices
- Demonstrate a respectful and responsible attitude towards the environment
- Promote and identify ways to reduce pollution, waste and the consumption of natural resources
ADDENDUM B

DEFINITIONS

1. **Stakeholder:** a person or group with a direct interest, involvement, or investment in something. This includes, but is not limited to, students, parents/guardians, staff and community.