

Resolution on Sustainability & the Design and Construction of High Performance Schools

_____ School District
Board of Education

Adopted _____
Date

WHEREAS, Students and staff are entitled to a safe and healthy school environment, and studies have indicated that student achievement is greater and attendance higher, and teacher and staff retention is improved, when the learning environment is naturally lit, comfortable and well maintained;

WHEREAS, Schools should employ design, construction and operation strategies that minimize operating costs, in particular for energy and water use;

WHEREAS, Schools that follow sustainable design principals can contribute to our community's environment by minimizing waste and air and water pollution;

WHEREAS, the District's program to build new schools and renovate existing ones provides a unique opportunity to move beyond standard designs;

WHEREAS, the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) has developed comprehensive design criteria based on the latest available information on sustainable school design, construction, and operation; and

WHEREAS, Schools designed to meet the CHPS criteria incorporate environmental features that provide a context for learning; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the _____ School District Board of Education recognizes the progress already made by the District's staff and design teams to incorporate sustainable design criteria into the District's school construction program; and

RESOLVED further, that the Board directs staff to expand this effort to ensure that every new school, new building and major modernization project meet the CHPS Criteria minimum qualifying point and prerequisite threshold; and that the focus be on criteria in the following priority areas:

Select priorities that meet your district's needs and location. Examples include:

- 1) Student performance and staff health through measures such as daylighting, the use of non toxic-emitting materials, and sound insulation or isolation to minimize noise and enhance classroom acoustical quality
- 2) operating cost minimization, through resource efficiency
- 3) minimizing the impact of District operations on the environment
- 4) taking advantage of financial incentive programs

RESOLVED further, that the Board of Education directs staff to follow the CHPS Roadmap and scorecard to ensure the efficient and complete implementation of CHPS, including creating a performance tracking system to ensure the effective implementation of the CHPS criteria throughout design, construction and operation; and

RESOLVED further, That the Board of Education endorses District participation in and directs staff to pursue partnerships that further the goal of high performance schools, including Federal, State and utility programs that provide sustainable design financial incentives, and;

RESOLVED further, that the Board of Education directs staff, during the design phase of the remaining projects in the current construction and modernization program and all such future projects, to require architects and staff to verify that their District project(s) have met or exceeded the minimum requirements for CHPS certification, and report the scores for all of the CHPS categories; and

RESOLVED further, that the Board of Education directs staff to report to the Board, within ____ days of the passage of this resolution, on the District's plan to comply with this Resolution; and

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education directs staff to report to the Board annually on the progress of this program, and provide quarterly summary statistics on the number of new schools and modernization projects designed and the percentage which have incorporated CHPS design criteria, and other statistics useful in assessing the progress of this effort.

SAMPLE