

On the Horizon for Duluth Public Schools

Purchasing *Purchase only non-toxic, petro-chemical-free, eco-friendly products from environmentally aware, local businesses...*

- Order only **recycled paper** and **Energy Star** electronics and appliances.
- **Rather than lowest price, consider** product's life span (i.e., energy use, maintenance, consumable supplies and disposal cost).
- **Prefer vendors** that take back, recycle, and dispose of products after their useful life.
- **Eliminate ordering single use items**, all unrecyclable or non-reusable **plastic and Styrofoam products**.



Water Resources *Minimizing waste-water, pollution & utility costs...*

- Use **outdoor rain gardens and ponds** (NWF, National Certified Wildlife Partnership).
- Use **containment systems** to capture rain water for watering vegetation on school grounds.

Activities *Co-curricular & extra-curricular events can be green...*

- **Half-time or assembly contests and PSAs by PA announcers** during games & activities to create enthusiasm for the district sustainability program.
- **Eco-conscious alternatives for team purchases** (i.e., organic cotton or recycled content uniforms)



(Slightly exaggerated)



Transportation *Efficient & energy-conscious district travel, including biking and walking to school...*

- Replace district vehicle fleet with most **carbon neutral modes of transportation** available.
- Provide **incentives** to choose energy efficient, alternative transportation (i.e., preferred, designated parking for hybrid, electric, bio-diesel, scooters, etc.).

Buildings/Energy *Energy efficient buildings featuring solar gain, high efficiency windows, recycled heat, pristine air, natural grounds...*

- Certified wildlife habitat sites on school grounds, with learning stations.
- Green roof or planter options reduce runoff and increase cooling capacity.



Food Service *Healthy, nutritious and environmentally aware...*

- **Produce own food** from district and on-site **gardens**.
- **Compost** food waste and use **reusable trays, dishes, utensils and napkins**.



Maintenance *Working with the environment...*

- Use safe, natural cleaning chemicals and/or ionized water sprayers.
- Eliminate any fertilizers, insecticides or herbicides that nature does not recognize.



Curriculum *Understand contemporary sustainable practices, current resource use and our impact in the ecosystem using hands-on activities...*

- As renewable energy systems are installed in schools, **software collects data** on energy gain for student lessons.
- Students **engage** in activities, re: **closing the resource loop, constructing** renewable energy technologies and understanding how they **create power to do work**.

