

# Goals for Sustainability Discussion

1. Provide the Board and public with insight on our efforts to date.
2. Hear/learn from collaborators.
3. Share our “why.”
4. Share a draft policy framework for discussion/feedback.



# **Why sustainability, climate and environmental justice?**

Challenges we will face in the 21st century.

- **Historically unprecedented warming globally and in Illinois will continue throughout this century.**
- **Flooding, heat waves, droughts, and other extreme weather events, will become more frequent and intense.**
- **Communities of color and other marginalized groups will face the worst consequences of climate change.**
- **Most young people are “extremely worried” about climate change.**



# **Why sustainability, climate and environmental justice?**

Our choices will greatly impact the intensity and impacts of climate change.

- **D97 has a responsibility to minimize its environmental footprint.**
- **In age appropriate ways, D97 students should learn:**
  - **the causes and effects of climate change.**
  - **how future choices will matter and the important roles they can play in addressing climate change.**
- **Our students should be prepared to participate in the rapidly growing green economy.**



## **D97 Policy** - Sustainability, Climate and Environmental Justice. *Process*

- **Informed by peer policies and discussions with local partners.**
- **Informed by today's discussion and discussions with staff/admin.**
- **To be vetted by Policy Committee and shared with Board this fall.**
- **Hope is to adopt a policy in 2023.**



## **D97 Policy - Sustainability, Climate and Environmental Justice.** ***Policy Framework***

- **Strong statement of vision and purpose**
  - **Global and local crises we face**
  - **Our responsibility as a district to address our footprint**
  - **Our responsibilities to our students/student-centered approach.**
- **Establish Sustainability Task Force, members include:**
  - **D97 point person**
  - **Students**
  - **Staff**
  - **Board members**
  - **Community members incl. parents, experts**
  - **Engagement consistent with Policy 7:12 - Equity**



## **D97 Policy - Sustainability, Climate and Environmental Justice.** ***Policy Framework***

- **Sustainability plan - process**
  - **Developed w/in one year of task force formation.**
  - **Opportunities for broad community engagement.**
  - **Collaborate with other local institutions.**
  - **Collaborate with relevant Board committees.**
  - **Apply racial equity impact assessment to plan.**
  - **Annual report to Board and community - progress, proposed modifications, etc.**



## **D97 Policy - Sustainability, Climate and Environmental Justice.** ***Policy Framework***

- **Sustainability plan - contents**
  - **Meet science-based greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals.**
  - **Decrease footprint in areas such as energy, waste, procurement (including food), and facilities.**
  - **Provide student learning opportunities and curriculum consistent with policy goals.**
  - **Achieve cost-savings through energy savings, external funding, etc. while considering budget implications of possible actions**
  - **Develop assessment framework - credible, clear, publicly accessible.**



## **D97 Policy - Sustainability, Climate and Environmental Justice.** *Board Discussion*

- **What hopes and goals do you have for this policy?**
- **What questions or concerns do you have?**
- **Is there anything that should be added or strengthened?**
- **Anything else you'd like to share?**

