

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 2 <i>Organization and Administration</i>
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	2.25

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will support environmental awareness and sustainability through education, action, and stewardship.

RATIONALE

The Board is committed to sustaining the environment through education and action to develop environmentally aware citizens.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per guidelines below.

GUIDELINES

1.0 Environmental Education

1.1 Students, by developing the knowledge, skills, perspectives, and practices needed to be environmentally aware and active can apply their knowledge, skills, perspectives, and practices cooperatively to effect long-term change. The Rainy River District School Board will:

- ensure that environmental education and practices are incorporated into the content and methodology of the instructional program throughout the system;
- support staff and students to incorporate the teachings of diverse communities, including First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples, in the development of environmental knowledge to deepen students' connection to the natural world;

2.0 Environmental Actions

2.1 To achieve active participation of students in sustainable environmental practices, schools will:

- encourage programs, projects and events to advance environmental awareness and action;
- engage student leaders in the design and delivery of environmental education projects;
- provide opportunities for students to share projects related to environmental stewardship;

- support students to effect positive and sustainable environmental change in their schools, in their homes, in their local communities, and at the global level;
- encourage high school students to consider ways of completing their community involvement requirements by addressing environmental issues in their communities;
- encourage school councils to support the implementation of environmental education and to promote environmental awareness and environmentally responsible practices;
- share information from community partners about local resources that support environmental awareness and protection, energy conservation, waste management, protection of the biosphere, and outdoor education.

3.0 Environmental Stewardship

- 3.1 The Rainy River District School Board, will demonstrate environmental stewardship by:
- implementing safe strategies, programs, and procedures to protect and conserve the environment;
 - developing environmentally responsible purchasing practices that align with quality, price, and service;
 - incorporating energy efficiencies throughout its existing facilities and in the design of future facilities.

Definitions:

Ecological footprint is a measure of the impact that human activities have on the environment.

Environmental Education is learning about the environment, for the environment, and in the environment that promotes an understanding of, rich and active experience in, and an appreciate for the dynamic interactions of the:

- Earth’s physical and biological systems
- Interdependency of our social and economic systems on these natural systems
- Scientific and human dimensions of environmental issues
- Positive and negative consequences, both intended and unintended, of the interactions between human-created and natural systems.

Environmental Stewardship or sustainability is meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

<p><u>CROSS REFERENCE</u></p> <p>Policy/Program Memorandum No. 124a Ontario Secondary School Diploma Requirement: Community Involvement Activities in English-Language Schools</p>	<p><u>Date Approved</u> April 6, 2021</p> <p><u>Board Motion</u> 169</p> <p><u>Review prior to</u> 2026</p>	<p><u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u></p> <p><i>Acting Today, Shaping Tomorrow: A Policy Framework for Environmental Education in Ontario Schools</i></p> <p><i>Shaping Our Schools, Shaping Our Future</i></p>
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<p>RRDSB Energy Management Plan</p>		<p><i>Ready, Set, Green! Tips, Techniques, and Resources from Ontario Educators</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Education: Scope and Sequence of Expectations, Grades 1-8, 2011</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Education: Scope and Sequence of Expectations, Grades 9-12, 2011</i></p> <p><i>Energy Efficiency Act, Ont. Regulation 38/06</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Protection Act</i></p>
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