

Carbon Neutral Action Report Conseil Scolaire Francophone de la Colombie-Britannique SD 93

Executive Summary

As part of its overall long-term Strategic Plan, the Conseil Scolaire Francophone recognizes the importance that all environmental learning aims to integrate environmental thinking and ideas into students' everyday lives. In this way, it is hoped that students will begin to realize how they can take personal responsibility and leadership in creating a more environmentally sustainable way of life. We must also turn to ourselves, as an educational institution and as individuals, to make changes and develop a new ethic – a responsible attitude toward caring for the Earth. Working to integrate environmental learning within all subject areas promotes this change in attitude by providing students with opportunities to experience and investigate the relationships linking individuals, societies, and natural surroundings. Schools continue to expand environmental learning into the curriculum. Recycling, composting and waste reduction programs continue to expand in the schools with increased student and teacher participation.

Through its Capital Program, the CSF practices environmental sustainability by requiring LEEDS certification that is demonstrated by the LEEDS Silver designation granted to École Victor Brodeur. The CSF new secondary school Jules Verne, recently opened in January 09, is expected to receive LEEDS Silver certification. Two future construction projects in Campbell River and Comox areas will be LEEDS Gold certified.

The CSF is in the process of establishing a Green Team Committee that will be mandated to coordinate and support all aspects of helping students and the community to learn about how they are connected to natural environment through direct experience in both natural and human designed systems like their school buildings.

Although the CSF may not meet Energy Retrofit minimum funding criteria, it continues to focus on energy efficient renovations as part of its three year Annual Facilities Grant Program. Removal of single pane glazing and installation of energy efficient lighting systems in all of our schools are examples of existing short and long-term retrofit programs that form part of the CSF 3 year AFG Plan. 2009 will see the completion of retrofit reports for each of the CSF's aging schools. Recent discussions with representatives from both BC Hydro and Terasen Gas are resulting in further investigation into programs that either utility can offer to the CSF to assist in its quest for carbon neutrality.

148 bus routes operate each day providing transportation services to 80% of francophone students attending regional school throughout the province of British Columbia. Over the past two years, the CSF embarked on restructuring its transportation system that includes a rewrite of its transportation policy and the purchase of an extensive transportation mapping software. The goal is to develop a system that provides reasonable service levels while reducing the overall environmental impact of such a complex bussing system.

Part 1: Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2008

Overview

École Océane, Nanaimo - School Grounds Greening and Playground Improvement Project. With funding support through the province's SCC program, the CSF Parent Advisory Council and City of Nanaimo are partnering to provide an environmentally engaging site for learning and play for both school students and the surrounding community. Included as part of the greening component, application has been made with Trees for Tomorrow to partner in a \$20,000 tree restoration program.

École Jules Verne, Vancouver - First francophone secondary school which opened in January 2009. Built to LEEDS Silver.

École Côtes du soleil, Powell River - Window replacement, infill and lighting upgrade.

École Franco nord - mechanical upgrade - 3 year program beginning in 2007/08 (part of 3 year AFG Plan).

1.1 Mobile Fuel Combustion			
Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Established travel reduction goals	In Progress	An overall reduction in travel budgets.	
Adopted a travel policy	Complete	Staff are recognizing the requirement to find more efficient means of meeting, thus reducing overall travel.	With 40 schools through the province of BC, electronic meetings reduce overall staff travel, thus directly reducing the overall carbon footprint of the school district.
1.2 Stationary fuel combustion and electricity			
Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Undertaken workstation tune-ups to help staff understand what they can do to reduce personal energy use	In Progress	Track comparative electrical consumption data by facility. Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district plan.	
Supplied power bars – to turn off power to non-essential items when not in use (e.g. phone chargers)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Undertaken Monitor turn-off challenge	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Replaced # computers with EnergyStar models	In Progress	Implemented district laptop program with a 4 year replacement cycle. First cycle begins with the 09/10 school year ensuring models all meet current Energy Star ratings.	
Asked staff to close blinds daily	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Used air dry setting on dishwashers	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Encouraged staff to use stairs	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Turned off lights in unused rooms	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Replaced Refrigerators (EnergyStar rated appliance)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Replaced other appliances (with EnergyStar rated appliance)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Installed multi-function devices (and removed stand-alone printers/faxes)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Replaced standard bulbs with CFLs	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Installed motion activated lights	In Progress	All new schools include motion activated lights.	
Undertaken lighting retrofit	In Progress	Multi-year plan in place that began 2007/08.	
Implemented server virtualization	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Utilized desk-top power management settings on computer	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	

Initiated corporate computer shut-down/wake-up for maintenance	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Unplugged unused equipment	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Applied for LEED existing building rating	In Progress	All new facilities will meet LEEDS Gold certification.
Undertaken building energy audit at LOCATION(s)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Initiated or completed a building energy retrofit	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.

1.3 Supplies

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Committed to use 30% recycled paper	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Committed to use 100% recycled paper	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Initiated automatic double sided printing	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Changed document template margins	In Progress		
Committed to hold paperless meetings	In Progress	All documents for meetings are distributed in electronic format only.	
Developed document library (online and one printed copy) for large documents	Complete	All documents are shared on FirstClass mail client or via the district portal.	District portal is in its final development stages.
Used collaborative software to edit on-line	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Re-used non-confidential scrap paper	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Used laptops/tablets	Complete	All students/teachers/administrators have access to laptops and wireless service throughout every school.	
Restructured a process to use less paper	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Actions on non-paper related supplies:			
Chose "Green" items from Distribution Centre	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	
Encouraged re-use of furniture and equipment	In Progress	To be incorporated as a goal under a district-wide plan.	

1.4 Employee Engagement

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Provided climate change education	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Provided conservation education	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Held contests to change behaviour/make pledges	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	

Held contests/support to generate ideas	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Developed Green Teams	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Supported Green Teams (resources)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Provided green tips	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Supported professional development	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.
Added green work goal to performance management	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.

1.5 Sustainability Actions (others)

Action	Action Taken	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken
Took water conservation measures – low flow showers or toilets, fix leaks	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Ran dishwasher only when full	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Reduced/replaced bottled water with filtered or refrigerated water	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Improved recycling measures	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Supported composting	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Used re-usable dishes	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Purchased green cleaning products	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Used green (low-e paints)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Supported sustainable procurement practices	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	
Adopted low-carbon contracting practices	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.	

Part 2: Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2009 -- 2011

2.1 Mobile Fuel Combustion

Action	Action Planned	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken	Timeframe
Replace # of TYPE OF VEHICLE with MORE EFFICIENT VEHICLE/Hybrid	In Progress	Increase percentage of district staff using energy efficient vehicles provided by the district.		
Establish anti-idling behaviour change program (e.g. signs, stickers, messages)	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Establish travel reduction goals	Planned	Comparative annual budget data reflecting reductions based on district-wide goals.		

2.2 Stationary Fuel Combustion (including electricity)

Action	Action Planned	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken	Timeframe
Undertake workstation tune-ups to help staff understand what they can do to reduce personal energy use	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Supply power bars – to turn off power to non-essential items when not in use (e.g. phone chargers)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Undertaken Monitor turn-off challenge	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Replace # computers with EnergyStar models	In Progress	First cycle of computer acquisition program is complete with replacement program now beginning in 09/10.		
Ask staff to close blinds daily	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Use air dry setting on dishwashers	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Encourage staff to use stairs	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Turn off lights in unused rooms	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Replace Refrigerators (EnergyStar rated appliance)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Replace other appliances (with EnergyStar rated appliance)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Install multi-function devices (and remove stand-alone printers/faxes)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Replace standard bulbs with CFLs	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Install motion activated lights	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Undertake lighting retrofit	In Progress	Commit annual AFG funding over long-term plan.		
Implement server virtualization	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Utilize desk-top power management settings on computer	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Initiate corporate computer shut-down/wake-up for maintenance	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Unplug unused equipment	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Apply for LEED existing building rating	In Progress	All new construction will meet LEED Gold certification.		
Undertake building energy audit at LOCATION(s)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Initiate or complete a building energy retrofit	In Progress	Included as part of log-term AFG plan.		

2.3 Supplies				
Action	Action Planned	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken	Timeframe
Commit to use 30% recycled paper	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Commit to use 100% recycled paper	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Initiate automatic double sided printing	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Change document template margins	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Commit to hold paperless meetings	In Progress	All meeting agendas and documentation are sent in electronic format.		
Develop document library (online and one printed copy) for large documents	In Progress	Final development of district portal will accommodate all document handling.		
Use collaborative software to edit on-line	In Progress	Final development of district portal will accommodate all document handling.		
Re-use non-confidential scrap paper	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Use laptops/tablets	In Progress	Continue with district laptop program and replacement cycle.		
Restructure a process to use less paper	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Actions on non-paper related supplies:				
Choose "Green" items from Distribution Centre	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Encourage re-use of furniture and equipment	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
2.4 Employee Engagement				
Action	Action Planned	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken	Timeframe
Provide climate change education	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Provide conservation education	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Hold contests to change behaviour/make pledge	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Hold contests/support to generate ideas	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Develop Green Teams	In Progress	District green team mandated by Board of Regional Trustees and in place by September/09.		
Support Green Teams (resources)	In Progress	Include school-based resources as part of budgeting exercise and outcomes.		
Provide green tips	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Support professional development	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Add a green work goal to performance management	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		

2.5 Sustainability Actions (others)

Action	Action Planned	Outcome/Performance Measure	Notes Clarifying Action Taken	Timeframe
Take water conservation measures – low flow showers or toilets, fix leaks	In Progress	All new construction will include water conservation measures.		
Run dishwasher only when full	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Reduce/replace bottled water with filtered or refrigerated water	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Improve recycling measures	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Support composting	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Use re-usable dishes	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Purchase green cleaning products	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Use green (low-e paints)	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Support sustainable procurement practices	In Progress	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		
Adopt low-carbon contracting practices	Planned	Guidelines to be developed as part of the overall district and school-based plans.		