



## NEWS RELEASE

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## SPS Board Passes Clean Energy Resolution

*District to be fossil-fuel free by 2040*

**SEATTLE** – Seattle Public Schools will run on 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2040, or earlier, thanks to a [resolution](#) passed last week by the [SPS Board of Directors](#).

Resolution 2020/21-18, “Transitioning Seattle Public Schools to 100% Clean and Renewable Energy,” was passed unanimously by the board during its regular meeting on Feb. 10, 2021.

The overarching goal of the resolution is to utilize fossil-free, clean energy throughout all district properties by 2040. The resolution sets a January 2022 deadline for an implementation plan to be presented to the board.

“The commitment our District made for 100% clean energy in electricity and transportation will have a positive impact for generations to come,” said Director Zachary DeWolf. “This was a huge community effort to create, so to all of our students who worked and fought for this: thank you for holding us adults accountable. I hope you understand the power you have in making the world better.”

Director DeWolf and Director Lisa Rivera-Smith were co-sponsors of the resolution.

The resolution also includes a 2027 deadline for the district to run “on 100% zero-carbon electricity with the combined use of energy from Seattle City Light and renewable energy sources installed on district property.”

Other key features of the resolution include:

- A task force will be assembled by April 30, 2021, to develop the implementation plan and accountability process;

- The implementation plan will prioritize measures advancing racial, environmental and economic justice;
- Climate science and climate justice will be integrated into the district curriculum;
- All new district construction or renovation after April 10, 2021 will be done without the use of fossil fuel infrastructure and will prioritize zero carbon energy sources;
- All new district vehicles purchased after April 10, 2021 will be either zero-emission or, if zero-emission is not possible, the vehicle will produce the lowest-possible emissions;
- Benchmarking of progress, every three years, in implementing the resolution to determine if the 2040 deadline can be met earlier;
- District buying power leveraging to encourage all vendors to employ clean energy.

Adoption of the resolution builds on previous programs and strategies adopted by the district to improve environmental responsibility, including the widespread implementation of solar energy, waste reduction and lowered energy consumption.

From 2010 to 2020, the district's energy use intensity was reduced from a factor of 43 to 36. The national average for K-12 schools is 48.5.

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