

**SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
RESOLUTION 2006/2007-18**



A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 (“District”) expressing the District’s commitment to take action to reduce natural resource consumption and greenhouse gases generated by the District; and authorizing the Superintendent to join the Seattle Climate Partnership.

WHEREAS, scientists around the world, including those at the University of Washington’s Joint Institute for the Study of Atmosphere and Oceans, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, have demonstrated a trend of increasing temperatures (global warming) with significant impacts to the earth and human way of life;

WHEREAS, the predicted effects of global warming will have costly and harmful results on anthropogenic and natural systems;

WHEREAS, the potential damage to the Pacific Northwest from global warming includes lower air quality, forest decline, rise in sea level, and disruptions in the water cycle leading to adverse affects on the region’s water, hydroelectric, and agriculture systems;

WHEREAS, significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions are required to curb global warming;

WHEREAS, the responsibility to achieve a GHG reduction lies with every individual, community and organization, including the Seattle-area which has a close relationship and dependence on a stable climate;

WHEREAS, King County, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, and the City of Seattle are developing or implementing climate protection plans;

WHEREAS, GHG reduction involves many of the activities important to the Seattle-community such as, energy security and cost avoidance, traffic congestion and commuting options, solid waste reduction and recycling, salmon recovery and habitat, and, urban forest and green space renewal;

WHEREAS, a reduction in GHG emissions from the District will move toward achieving global climate stability, while realizing tangible local economic and environmental benefits;

WHEREAS, as an educational institution, the District is committed to demonstrating environmental stewardship for the health of our community, our children, and our ecosystems through educating students, staff, and the community about GHGs and the importance of their reduction;

WHEREAS, the District has demonstrated a commitment to environmental stewardship through two (2) Resource Conservation Specialist positions who support District-wide programs including, recycling, composting, the Green Team, and energy and water conservation programs;

WHEREAS, implementation of the District's Natural Resource Conservation Policy and Procedures are expected to reduce GHG emissions District-wide and provide additional opportunities to save operational money;

WHEREAS, RCW 39.35 mandates compliance with LEED silver standard or the Washington sustainable school design protocol on new building construction and energy conservation measures in existing buildings, this resolution will support building to these standards.

WHEREAS, the Seattle Climate Partnership is a partnership of Seattle-area organizations that have committed to take actions to reduce their GHG emissions and help support efforts in the community to reduce emissions;

WHEREAS, Seattle Climate Partners receive technical assistance, networking workshop opportunities, access to best practice studies, and public recognition for their effort to reduce GHGs;

WHEREAS, in becoming a member of the Seattle Climate Partnership the District would be making a commitment to take new and continued efforts to reduce GHGs, which would:

- (1) Demonstrate the District's public commitment to the environment and the health of our community;
- (2) Show leadership in environmental stewardship; and;
- (3) As the first school district in the state to become a member of the partnership, the District would act as a model for other K-12 school districts in GHG reduction;
- (4) Continue and elevate GHG emission reduction and natural resource conservation.

WHEREAS, as the largest school district in the state, with over one hundred (100) facilities, eight thousand (8,000) employees, and forty six thousand (46,000) students, the District has a significant impact on GHG emissions and responsibility to commit to GHG reduction;

WHEREAS, in becoming a member of the Seattle Climate Partnership the District's GHG emission reduction would have a cumulative effect with other partners' efforts, therefore having a greater positive impact on the reduction of GHGs and joining a community of organizations committed to making a difference;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1:

- (1) Commits to a long range plan to take actions that will further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and natural resource consumption;
- (2) As part of visibly demonstrating the District's commitment to GHG reduction, the District is fully committed to becoming a member of the Seattle Climate Partnership;
- (3) Authorizes the Superintendent to take appropriate administrative action in support of this resolution, which includes authorization for the District to join The Seattle Climate Partnership;
- (4) The Facilities/Utilities/Resource Conservation Group is authorized to facilitate and coordinate the planning and reporting of GHG reductions;
- (5) The District will model leadership throughout the community and within the schools through a reduction in natural resource consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions strategies and actions whereby;
 - A. Each department will develop an action plan, with measurable goals and identified action items to work toward a reduction in GHGs;
 - B. Departments and organizations within the District that are responsible for large GHG emissions are to make no fewer than one (1) annual report to the School Board Operations Committee on GHG reduction progress. Such large GHG emitters include: school bus transportation, building utility use, building construction, transportation of goods and services, District motor pool and other District vehicles.
- (6) The District will take actions resulting in GHG reduction and natural resource conservation in the areas of behavioral changes, such as educating students and staff on the importance of turning off lights and equipment when not in use; operating standards, such as efficient building operation; and infrastructure strategies, such as instituting double pane windows in all buildings.

Cheryl Chow, President

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ATTEST: _____
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