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# Sustainability Plan Update

**May 22, 2019**

— Facilities Department —

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# Our Vision

**All Berkeley students have access to healthy, green school buildings and grounds  
and hands-on environmental and outdoor education.**

**A Deeper Shade of Green**



**Sustainability Plan 2018**

**Berkeley**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Berkeley Unified School District

# Sustainability Plan Topics

1. Green building materials
2. Transportation
3. Water
4. Energy
5. Waste
6. Food
7. Schoolyards
8. Eco-literacy and nature based education

# GREEN BUILDINGS AND MATERIALS

**VISION: BUSD buildings will be constructed and maintained in ways that are healthy, safe and sustainable.**

- The Facilities Department is committed to:
  - green buildings and materials
  - addressing waste consumption
  - reviewing and updating construction design standards

# TRANSPORTATION

**VISION: BUSD shall be non-polluting whenever feasible.**

- Applied for and received a grant for eight cleaner energy small buses at no cost to the District. We have received and are using the new buses and have removed from service the older, higher polluting buses
- Applied for and received approval for a grant for eight electric buses at no cost to the District
- Currently in design phase to plan for the infrastructure to support the electric buses

# ENERGY

**VISION: Achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, with at least a 15% reduction in energy use by 2025.**

- Met with experts regarding update of the Solar Master Plan which could be implemented following passage of a new BUSD Bond (likely 2020)
- Goal is moving toward zero net-energy dependency on the PG&E grid – again dependent on passage of a new BUSD bond
- Intent is to design the systems in a way that will best help us achieve our carbon neutrality goals
- Successfully contracted out the remainder of Proposition 39 (energy efficiency) projects - to be completed in the near future. These include replacing all interior lighting at seven schools with LED, modernizing the equipment for the Berkeley High swimming pool, and modernizing the heating controls at several schools

*\*Barring unforeseen circumstances in the entitlement process*

# WASTE

**VISION: BUSD will achieve an 80% diversion rate by 2025.**

- Teacher Leaders at 14 schools established to lead on-site waste reduction efforts
- Reduced size of garbage receptacle at Plant Operations as a result of increased recycling efforts
- Purchased and distributed recycling and compost bins for classrooms and hallways
- Eliminated hundreds of thousand of units of plastic cups by identifying a source of compostable cups for Nutrition Services
- Received two additional grants to further our waste reduction goals
- Successfully trained custodial staff on implementing waste reduction initiative
- Rolled out District-wide contest “Striving for Zero Waste”
- Began piloting hydration stations at six sites



**RECYCLING**  
Aluminum Cans, Tin Snacks,  
Clean Paper, Cardboard

**COMPOST**  
Vegetable Scraps, Fruit  
Peels, Coffee Grounds,  
Tea Bags

**LANDFILL**  
Plastic Eggs, Juice Boxes,  
Plastic Wraps, & To Go Lids

**MIXED PAPER**  
Binder Paper, Poster Paper,  
Cardboard, Newspapers,  
Magazines

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Aluminum Cans, Tin Snacks,  
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# FOOD

**VISION: BUSD students are served nutritious, organic, locally-grown, humane, freshly-prepared meals in the cafeteria, and are educated about their food choices and the impact those choices have on their health, the community and the environment.**

- Nutrition Services has partnered with the Gardening Program in forming a Wellness Committee to lead this initiative

# WATER

**VISION: BUSD will reduce water usage by at least 15% by 2030.**

- In the process of completing irrigation audits
- Will continue to install high-efficiency irrigation controllers in Summer '19

# ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Met with Nik Kaestner, Director of Sustainability and staff at SFUSD Sustainability Office, resulting in resources, information and networking opportunities to further BUSD sustainability efforts
- Made significant progress in benchmarking BUSD's utility usage
- Posted a Request for Qualifications and Proposal for a consultant to continue to develop and implement the Sustainability Plan

