The Grand Rapids Public Schools aims to infuse our mission of providing vigorous education with the ethic of sustainability. The district will create a common language for all levels of the district to employ in order to embody sustainability practices and principles. Impacting all aspects of operations will help us graduate responsible stewards of our natural resources, reduce the ecological impact of the district, garner cost savings, and boost productivity of students and staff.

Integrating sustainability requires considering all aspects of the district’s activities: Education, Facilities, and Culture.

The district will support educational programming by providing physical spaces that promote health, productivity, and safety of students, staff, and community. Facilities will consider the need to reduce life-cycle costs by conserving energy and natural resources, further supporting our educational mission through fiscal responsibility.

The culture of the district will stress inter-departmental learning and collaboration to inspire commitment to sustainability into all future policies and practices, as well as working with the community and with local governmental entities. It will be necessary to balance educational, financial, and environmental issues in daily decision-making.

The Board will work with the Superintendent to determine sustainability goals annually.

Approved: June 29, 2009
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