

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Austin Independent School District schools have the potential to make positive, tangible environmental change in the world while teaching students to be stewards of the local and global communities, the earth and its resources;

WHEREAS, the Austin Independent School District believes that when efforts, strategies and activities for the environment are utilized within the curriculum, as learning opportunities, including experiential applications of the TEKS concepts for science, students improve academically, and become better local and global citizens;

WHEREAS, the Austin Independent School District's Strategic Plan emphasizes using multiple and appropriate methods of communication and engagement to reach all stakeholders and every part of the community to gain meaningful input, participation, partnerships, and shared responsibilities for student success,

WHEREAS, environmental stewardship is a priority for the Austin Independent School District, reflecting the culture of the Austin community,

WHEREAS, the development and implementation of a systemic framework providing coordination of environmental efforts that improve student learning and the local environment, is essential for meeting the vision of environmental stewardship in AISD,

WHEREAS, the creation of the vision for environmental stewardship in the AISD community, must involve stakeholders representing students, teachers, administration, and parents of AISD, along with members of the local community, including government, higher education, business, industry and non-profit organizations,

WHEREAS, it is important that the Austin Independent School District set an example of respect and stewardship for the environment;

WHEREAS, the Austin Independent School District is committed to creating a culture of environmental stewardship across the district, including school campuses,

WHEREAS, the recommendations of the Environmental Stewardship Envisioning Committee and the priorities of the Austin Independent School District align to one another to promote sustainable practices and encourage life-long environmentally friendly habits in schools, families and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Austin Independent School District promotes, encourages, and strongly urges:

- Adopting the Vision of the Environmental Committee:
“Environmental Stewardship: Utilize a systemic approach to inspire our students to become stewards of the environment, resulting in improved student learning and academic achievement.”
- Continuation of the Environmental Committee work towards implementing the system of environmental stewardship, so that AISD continues to recommend improvements that result in a greener school district.
- All AISD campuses to create a school community “Green Team” in the next two years that will assist to effectively implement energy saving and other sustainable practices, and identify a Campus Sustainability Coordinator, who will report regularly to the Campus Advisory Council and be the campus clearinghouse for information relating to sustainable issues and work to implement energy and water conservation, and other environmental practices on campus.

- All AISD campuses to work with the District's Energy Manager to decrease electrical usage on campuses during non-occupied times and during the summer months to reduce energy costs and consumption.
- All AISD employees, students, and community volunteers to communicate electronically, or if it is necessary to print or copy, utilize both sides of the page to reduce paper and printer ink costs and consumption district-wide, whenever it is appropriate.
- All AISD facilities to establish "Idle-Free Zones" and all AISD staff and parents to stop unnecessary vehicle idling to reduce fuel consumption and harmful vehicle emissions.
- All AISD schools to work with the City of Austin's Child Safety Division to implement the "BOW-WOW: Bike on Wednesday/Walk on Wednesday" program and that students and parents walk or bike to school as often as possible as a way to enhance children's health and to improve air quality and environment.
- All AISD employees, students, and community volunteers, when feasible, to implement sustainable practices in operating, maintaining, building, and acquiring facilities.

Approved on the 26th day of April, 2010.

Mark Williams, President
Board of Trustees

Attest:

Lori Moya, Secretary
Board of Trustees