

1.5 – Environmental Stewardship

The Nanaimo-Ladysmith Board of Education of School District #68 (the “Board”) honours and respects the land as an important source of knowledge and a determining factor of our health. The Board acknowledges the interconnection and holism of all things in our ecosystem and our dependence on the land that our schools and offices are situated upon.

The Board understands that climate change is a result of human activity and that our actions impact the land and our ecosystem. The Board also understands that, without remediation, climate change will interfere with our capacity to achieve our mandate of educating the students of NLPS and will undermine the well-being of our communities.

Guided by the notions of reciprocity, responsibility and restoration, the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Board of Education of School District #68 commits to be an active part of the solution to the current climate crisis and to ongoing environmental stewardship by:

- Integrating environmental considerations and sustainable practices into administrative, capital planning, and programming decisions;
- Reviewing programs and practices to limit the nature and scale of negative environmental impact and to increase sustainable practices and environmental stewardship;
- Creating an environmental stewardship action plan that includes measurable targets and objectives to reduce our carbon footprint, use of resources, waste, and greenhouse gas emissions in a manner consistent with current climate science;
- Supporting educational and professional development opportunities to foster ecological literacy, environmental stewardship, and connection to the land among our students and staff;
- Advocating for and allocating resources for the effective implementation and maintenance of environmental stewardship practices and the environmental stewardship action plan;
- Encouraging intergovernmental and community partnerships to achieve and enhance our environmental stewardship goals; and
- Communicating our attempts to increase our sustainability, reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint, and to become environmental stewards in our communities.

Legal References:

Monitoring Method: *Board of Education / Superintendent*

Monitoring Frequency: *Triennial*

Adopted: 2020.10.28