SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A. PURPOSE

To establish and implement procedures for sustainability plans in all Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) for the purpose of conserving natural resources, protecting the environment, reducing waste, fostering cost containment, and promoting environmental literacy system-wide.

B. ISSUE

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County recognizes that reducing the carbon footprint of the school system is important. Having sustainability plans across all disciplines will reduce the environmental impact that the school district has on the environment and will promote a positive stewardship of our natural resources to the students and staff of AACPS and the citizens of Anne Arundel County so as to reduce that carbon footprint.

C. POSITION

1. The Board is committed to sustainability. This effort is supported and reinforced through good management practices in combination with active employee and student participation.

2. The Board supports the establishment of appropriate sustainability program standards and procedures, training personnel on their duties and responsibilities and monitoring implementation and compliance objectives.

3. The Board directs the Superintendent to implement a comprehensive sustainability plan to include: energy and water conservation, green building design, recycling and waste management, environmentally preferable purchasing practices, and encouraging activities that reduce pollution.

4. The Board directs the Superintendent to implement a curriculum that explores the relationship of sustainability principles to the environment and the economy, and encourages students, staff, and users to be responsible stewards of the environment.

5. The Board recognizes the federal, state, and local environmental laws, regulations, and codes to be appropriate and consistent with this policy and will comply with those requirements.
D. IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy and to advocate for adequate resources to promote the program.

2. The Superintendent will establish a Sustainability Steering Committee to establish and implement sustainability goals and objectives.

Policy History: Adopted on 09/25/13.

Note previous policy history: None