

Integrated Waste Management

The Board of Trustees believes that the conservation of water, energy, and other natural resources, the protection of the environment, and the implementation of an effective waste diversion program are connected to the district's educational mission and are essential to the health and well-being of the community. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a cost-effective, integrated waste management program that incorporates the principles of green school operations.

The district's integrated waste management program shall include strategies designed to promote waste management practices of source reduction, recycling, and composting to help the district reduce and recycle solid and organic waste, properly dispose of potentially hazardous materials, improve efficiency in the use of natural resources, and minimize the impact of such use on the environment. The program shall address all areas of the district's operations, including, but not limited to, procurement, resource utilization, and facilities management practices.

The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with city, county, and state agencies and other public or private agencies in developing and implementing the district's integrated waste management program.

The Superintendent or designee shall make every effort to identify funding opportunities for the district's integrated waste management program, including applying for available grants or other cost-reduction incentives.

The Superintendent or designee may provide appropriate educational and training opportunities to students and staff regarding the benefits and methods of conserving natural resources and the manner in which integrated waste management strategies impact such efforts.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly monitor all aspects of the district's integrated waste management program and shall provide an update to the Board on its effectiveness as necessary.

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For all applicable areas of district operations, the Superintendent or designee shall design an integrated waste management program that minimizes the generation of waste, encourages the recovery and diversion of reusable materials from the waste stream, improves efficiency in the utilization of natural and material resources, and protects the environment. The program shall implement measures and/or practices to:

1. Reduce the consumption of disposable materials, increase the composting of organic materials, and fully utilize all materials prior to disposal
2. Recycle materials such as paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum
3. Prefer recycled, biodegradable, and other environmentally preferable products when procuring materials for use in district schools and buildings or contracting for the construction or modernization of any district building
4. Work with city, county, or other government agencies to locate markets for the district's reusable and recyclable materials
5. Minimize the use of nonbiodegradable materials and work with vendors and contractors to use packaging and delivery materials that generate less waste

Recycling

Any school site or district facility which generates four or more cubic yards of solid waste per week shall take at least one of the following actions: (Public Resources Code 42649.1, 42649.2)

1. Source separate recyclable materials from solid waste and subscribe to a basic level of recycling service that includes collection, self-hauling, or other arrangements for the pickup of the recyclable materials
2. Subscribe to a recycling service which may include mixed waste processing that yields diversion results comparable to source separation

Any school site or district facility which generates two or more cubic yards per week of solid waste, recyclables, and organics shall arrange for recycling services specifically for organic waste, including food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste. Such facilities shall take at least one of the following actions: (Public Resources Code 42649.8, 42649.81-42649.82, 42649.84)

1. Source separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to a basic level of organic waste recycling service that includes collection and recycling of organic waste
2. Recycle organic waste onsite or self-haul organic waste for recycling

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AR 3511.1(b)

3. Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that may include mixed waste processing that specifically recycles organic waste
4. Make other arrangements to sell or donate recyclable organic waste materials

Any school site or district facility that meets the above thresholds for solid or organic waste shall place a recycling bin or container for solid or organic waste, as applicable, in areas where food or other materials are purchased at the facility for immediate consumption. The recycling bin or container shall be: (Public Resources Code 42649.2, 42649.81)

1. Adjacent to each bin or container for nonrecyclable trash, except in restrooms
2. Visible and easily accessible
3. Clearly marked with educational signage indicating appropriate items to be placed in the recycling bin or container in accordance with state law and the local jurisdiction's waste ordinances and practices