

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Statement of Policy

The Peel District School Board is committed to delivering effective environmental education and modeling environmentally responsible practices by consistently considering the environmental impact of curriculum and operational decisions.

The Board encourages staff, students and the school community to advocate for and follow environmentally sustainable practices. As part of this commitment, the Board is dedicated to engaging youth through leadership opportunities and will nurture students' ability to affect positive change both locally and globally.

This policy is aligned with and supports the principles and expectations of the Board's Human Rights policy (Policy 51) and the Equity and Inclusive Education policy (Policy 54). At all times, this policy should be interpreted to be consistent with the Board's policies and the *Human Rights Code*.

Guiding Principles

It is expected that staff, students and Board departments will demonstrate a commitment to:

- purchasing locally grown food for use and sale in schools and other Board facilities
- establishing and maintaining relationships with vendors that share the Peel Board's commitment to environmental and social responsibility, and reviewing and revising, if necessary, existing purchasing policies/practices to ensure policy compliance
- base the design and construction of new facilities and renovations/additions to existing facilities on environmental principles, including sustainability and environmental impact
- integrating environmental and social responsibility in all areas of curriculum taught in Peel Board schools
- waste reduction through consistent recycling and resource management
- the use of environmentally and socially-friendly products
- energy and water conservation
- establishing outdoor green spaces at Board facilities
- encouraging and recognizing staff and student leadership in the area of environmental responsibility
- engaging with internal and external partners to further enhance environmental responsibility in the Peel Board

Through encouraging environmental responsibility, the Board will continue to foster a safe, welcoming, inclusive and respectful climate for learning and working.