

Every Child, Every Day,
Whatever It Takes

September 27, 2018

Steve Hagerty
Mayor, City of Evanston
Lorraine Morton Civic Center
2100 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201

Dear Mayor Hagerty,

Thank you for inviting District 65 to the April 5th Climate Action Meeting of Evanston's large employers. District 65 is committed to continuing to be an active member of the Evanston community. We are excited to join other large employers and the City in reducing our carbon foot print and ensuring that the City Evanston is prepared for the impact of climate change. And we are excited to support your Climate Action and Restorative Plan.

District 65's mission statement --"Working together as a community, we will inspire creativity and prepare each student to achieve academically, grow personally, and contribute positively to a global society. Every child, Every day, Whatever it Takes" -- clearly supports the need to take action toward reducing the impact of climate change in our community.

District 65 has already taken numerous steps to reduce our carbon foot print. District 65's existing Climate/Energy/Sustainability Initiatives include the following.

1. Participates in the City of Evanston environmental benchmarking and recycling.
2. Participates in the Neptune Water Usage Management System through the City of Evanston water department.
3. Updated 70 percent of natural gas boilers with natural gas fired boiler systems.
4. Updated building automation system, which enables control our HVAC systems during occupied and unoccupied times.
5. Created waste stations in four school cafeterias with a goal to have all school cafeterias using waste stations by 2023.
6. Maintains a commitment to the School Board's Energy Guidelines. Since the creation of these guidelines the District achieved an energy reduction impact of approximately 40,000 MMBTU's per year or 2,474 equivalent metric tons of CO2. For water the District attained on average per year a 45 percent use avoidance for the last 20 years.
7. Uses Energy Star Portfolio Manager to help monitor energy use.
8. Updated lighting to motion activated lighting and LED.
9. Uses Green Seal cleaning products and environmental friendly pest control products.
10. Installed water fountains with bottle fillers to encourage reusable water bottles.
11. Installed low flow faucets and flush valves in washrooms to reduce water use.
12. Installed roof replacement materials that incorporate air and vapor barriers, which have a high level of thermal insulation and a 30-year warranty.
13. Installed energy efficient windows and exterior doors.
14. Prohibits use of fertilizer or weed killer use on the District's landscaping.

Paul D. Goren
Superintendent of Schools

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Evanston/Skokie SD 65
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15. Updated curriculum to address sustainability issues.
16. Created energy awareness competitions, (e.g. Eco Power Challenge, Design stickers to “Turn Off Lights”).
17. Installed one KW Solar Panel at Haven, Chute, Nichols, King Arts, and soon at Washington.
18. Promotes environmental clubs and edible gardens throughout the district to educate students on the benefits of healthy and sustainable living.
19. Maintains membership on the City of Evanston Green Ribbon team.
20. Promotes environmentally friendly office practices (e.g. recycled paper products, two-sided printing).

We understand that in order for the Evanston community to meet its ambitious goals, such as 100 percent clean energy and eventual carbon neutrality, additional action is necessary from all members of the Evanston community. That is why we are excited to announce additional initiatives that will support the community goals.

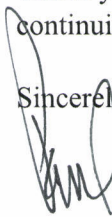
New Climate/Energy/Sustainability Commitments include the following.

1. District 65 will work toward elimination of styrofoam trays in the school cafeterias to be replaced with compostable trays that will be picked up by a third party and composted. The District is committed to implementing a recycling program in all school cafeterias.
2. District 65 will pilot food composting at six of the District’s schools in an attempt to reduce food waste. The goal is to educate the students about the benefits of recycling and to reduce waste from going into landfills by 50 percent in five years.
3. District 65 is working toward replacing existing florescent lighting with LED lighting which could cut our electric consumption by 50 percent by the year 2028.
4. District 65 is exploring solar panel energy for some of its facilities, with the goal of reducing energy emission and operating costs, while providing renewable energy sources.
5. The District is adopting the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which introduce global climate change to middle school students. This new curriculum includes an understanding of human activities that affect global warming and an understanding that decisions to reduce the impact of global warming depend on understanding climate science, engineering capabilities and social dynamics.

In addition to these commitments, we agree to provide an annual update to the City on the status of our work to ensure community progress in fighting climate change.

Thank you for your leadership on this important community issue. We look forward to continuing to make Evanston the Most Livable City in America.

Sincerely,



Paul Goren
Superintendent of Schools

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