

# Sustainability Strategy Progress Report

March 2018

This document provides an update on the work completed this school year towards developing an environmental sustainability framework (“Sustainability Strategy”) for Surrey Schools.

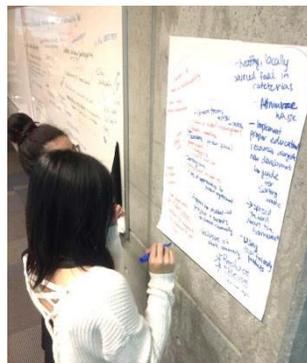
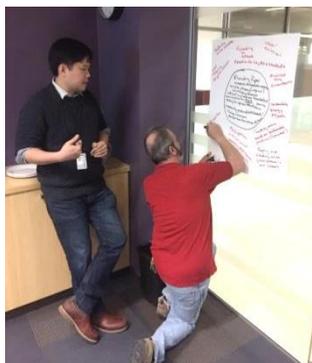
## Overview

In 2017, Surrey Schools endorsed a new Environmental Sustainability Policy (No. 3700) that outlines:

*“[that] the Board recognizes the importance of the natural environment in building a healthy and sustainable future. The Board acknowledges its responsibility to conduct its affairs in an environmentally responsible manner and to protect the natural ecosystems that we impact.”*

As a part of the accompanying Regulation (No. 3700.1), Surrey Schools has committed to “develop and maintain a comprehensive environmental sustainability framework that will define priorities and establish realistic goals and targets.”

This year, the Energy Management and Sustainability team is working with a Sustainability Working Group (SWG), made up of stakeholders from across the district, to develop the environmental sustainability framework or “Environmental Sustainability Strategy.”



November SWG Meeting

## Development Steps

The steps to developing this Environmental Sustainability Strategy are as follows:

- Market Research
- Develop Vision
- Develop Sustainability Framework
- Conduct Environmental Sustainability Assessment
- Develop 3-5 year Sustainability Strategy that includes:
  - Sustainability Vision
  - Sustainability Framework: “Key focus areas with accompanying guidelines of effective practice that are established, reviewed and revised periodically.”
  - “Goals and Performance Metrics” for each priority focus area.

## Progress to Date

The following table outlines the tasks completed to date along with outcomes for each task. The draft sustainability vision and framework are provided below.

Date	Task	Outcomes
Nov	Market Research	28 page report summarizing Canadian and US examples of sustainability programs, plans and frameworks for school districts and the education sector.
Nov	SWG Meeting	Gathered input for draft of Sustainability Vision and Framework.
Jan	Draft Vision and Framework	Drafted several options for Vision and Framework based on research and input from SWG.
Feb	SWG Meeting	Presented draft Vision and Framework options and selected and modified preferred option.



## Draft Sustainability Framework

Intent:

The Sustainability Framework is the model or structure that outlines the areas of responsibility and impact for sustainability within an organization. The framework is used on an annual basis to guide the planning process in identifying strategic priority areas for sustainability projects and initiatives.

Developing Surrey Schools' Sustainability Framework:

Stakeholders told us that they wanted the Framework to be easily understood by anyone in the organization and should have a visual depiction. Our stakeholders wanted the framework to capture the fact that there are both operational and educational priorities for each impact area which led to the 'Key Approaches' underlying each identified 'Impact Area'.



## Next Steps

The following table outlines the tasks planned for the remainder of the school year.

Date	Task	Outcomes
Mar	<b>Gather Feedback</b>	Gather feedback from executive on draft vision and framework
Apr	<b>Environmental Assessment</b>	Gather data on past achievements, current actions and performance metrics for impact areas.
May 8	<b>Open House</b>	Gather feedback from larger stakeholder group on priorities for the plan.
May	<b>SWG Meeting</b>	Final meeting of the year to review and confirm Vision & Framework, review open house input and begin to draft action plan
June-August	<b>Draft Sustainability Plan</b>	Develop a 3-5 year Sustainability Pan.