



In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board acknowledges the precarious state of the global environment, and that we have a responsibility to mitigate further impact where possible. Our role as leaders in Catholic education, is to mentor, shape and guide our students on critical issues such as this, and educate them in what we can all do differently in order to reverse or slow the damage caused by global pollution and depleted natural resources. The following principles will be implemented and maintained by the Board in support of this.

1. **Energy Conservation:** We will continue to adopt energy conservation measures in all of our facilities including the use of energy efficient lighting, mechanical systems, and building envelopes.
2. **Education:** We will continue to educate our students, staff and school communities about the importance of sustainability and our role in protecting the future of our planet.
3. **Waste Reduction:** We will continue to implement recycling and composting programs in all of our facilities and endeavour to reduce our overall waste by encouraging the use of recyclable containers and eliminating single-use plastics such as plastic utensils and bottled water.
4. **Transportation:** We will continue to encourage the use of alternative forms of transportation where possible to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, including walking, cycling, car-pooling, school bussing, or use of public transit.
5. **Renewable Energy:** We will continue to explore opportunities to generate renewable energies such as solar, wind, or geothermal within our facilities where it is financially feasible to do so.
6. **Partnerships:** We will continue to explore partnerships with various levels of government and/or utility providers to collaboratively reduce our reliance on fossil fuels across the Board.

The Director of Education will issue [*Administrative Operational Procedures*](#) for the implementation of this Policy.

References

- [*Encyclical Letter Laudato Si' of the Holy Father Francis on Care for our Common Home*](#)
- [*The Pope's 10 Commandments on Climate Change, CNN*](#)
- [*Benedict 2010 World Day of Peace*](#)
- [*Ontario EcoSchools*](#)
- [*Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace*](#)
- [*Ontario Regulation 102/94 - Waste Audits and Reduction Work Plans*](#)
- [*Canada's Commitments and Actions on Climate Change Auditor General of Canada*](#)
- [*Net Zero 2050 Ontario Energy Association*](#)
- [*The Paris Agreement 2015 Government of Canada*](#)
- [*Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority: NPCA*](#)

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