

02/20/2023 Go Green Park Ridge

1. What is your vision for a Sustainable School District?

A sustainable district would have environmental awareness and sustainability integrated within the curriculum and culture. We would follow the strategic plan goal of maximizing resources for sustainability in connection with both major projects and with everyday school life.

2. How can the Board institutionalize its/the environmental goals written in the District's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan?

The board can institutionalize these goals when it approves the hiring of professionals, service contracts, and projects under the facilities plan. For example, the board institutionalized its environmental goal of increasing the energy efficiency of facilities when it directed the superintendent on August 12, 2021 “to prepare a request for proposal for architectural services for the [kindergarten] project in line with our vision and goals under the strategic plan including but not limited to sustainability” and again when the board approved the new architect that prioritizes sustainability (Wight and Company) on January 26, 2023. The board can also support the creation of an action plan that aligns with Board Policy 6:60, which requires environmental curricula, and revise Policy 4:150 to emphasize green infrastructure practices.

3. Districts across the region are hiring Sustainability Directors. Do you see this position as important for D64? Why or why not?

This position would be important for the district to provide for consistency and to ensure that an individual remains focused on the strategic plan's goals. If possible, the director could be a person who's already employed by the district and is willing to accept an additional role.