

# Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee

## A Year in Review: Outputs and Recommendations

May 2018 – June 2019

Presented to the Board of Education – June 19, 2019

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
LEAD. CARE. INSPIRE.



# Overview

- **Background**
  - Purpose
  - Formation of Committee; Members
- **Process and Development**
  - Initial Survey and Brainstorm
  - Topic Team Formation
  - Case Study Development
  - Prioritizing Initiatives
    - Short Term Priorities
    - Mid and Long Term Priorities
- **Future of ESAC/Next Steps**

# Purpose

AAPS Advisory Committees engage community members by:

- Collecting data;
- Establishing goals and expectations;
- Identifying exemplars and;
- Bringing forward **recommendations** to inform and advise the Superintendent and Board of Education

# Recommendation Considerations

- Supports diverse aspirations of all students
- Promotes equitable access for all students
- Honors cultural diversity
- Abides by legal and regulatory requirements
- Supports health and safety of students, staff, community, and the environment



# Mission Statement

## ***AAPS Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee***

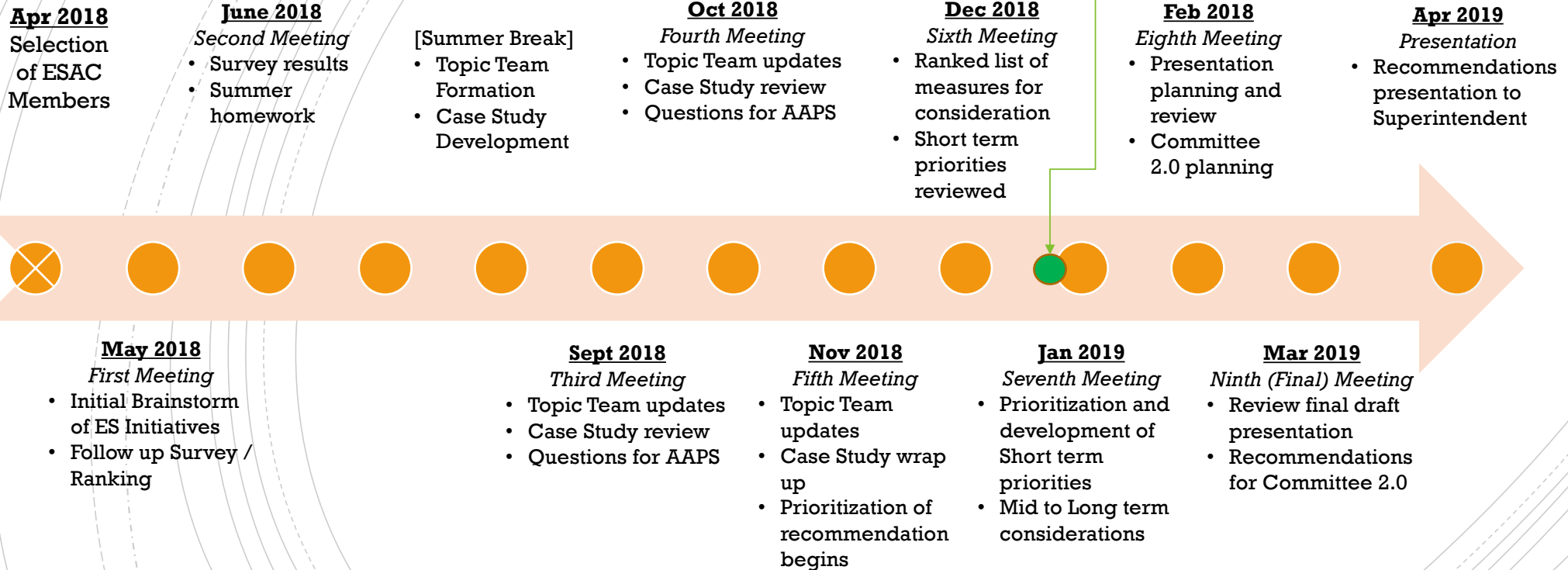
*The Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee will work with the Executive Director of Physical Properties to make recommendations to the Superintendent and Board of Education in the development of an **AAPS Environmental Sustainability Plan**, including consideration of all the impacts of district decisions over the **short and long term***

# ESAC Members

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>AAPS Connections</b>
<b>Adam Simon</b>	Parent, Slauson and Pioneer
<b>Andrew Fillmore</b>	Staff Member, Skyline
<b>Carlene Colvin-Garcia</b>	Parent, A2 STEAM and Skyline
<b>Chris Curtis</b>	Administrator, Parent, at Ann Arbor Open and Skyline High School
<b>Dan Ezekiel</b>	Community Member, Bach, Slauson, Pioneer; Former. Teacher, Forsythe
<b>Jan Culbertson</b>	Community Member, Forsythe, Scarlett and Huron
<b>Janette Lutz</b>	Parent, Pioneer High School
<b>Jennifer Chapman</b>	Parent, A2 STEAM
<b>Jenny York</b>	Teacher and Parent, at Allen

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>AAPS Connections</b>
<b>Jo Ann Telfer</b>	Administrator, Westerman Preschool and Family Center
<b>John Beeson</b>	Parent, Bach and A2 STEAM
<b>Katie Stoffel-Duffy</b>	Parent, Wines Elementary School
<b>Kevin Morgan</b>	Parent, Bryant/Pattengill, Tappan
<b>Malini Ratan</b>	Parent, Bryant Elementary
<b>Fernando H. Andrade</b>	Parent, Ann Arbor Open
<b>Nicole Berg</b>	Parent, Lakewood
<b>Josh Tumolo</b>	Teacher, A2 STEAM
<b>Seth Penchansky</b>	Parent, Burns Park, Tappan
<b>Stacy Dieve</b>	Parent, Ann Arbor Open
<b>Tara D'Andrea</b>	Parent, Thurston, Clague, Huron
<b>Theresa Tanin</b>	Parent, Abbot Elementary

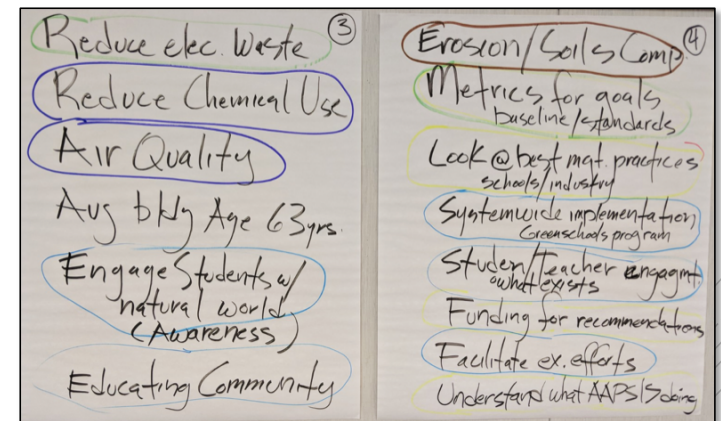
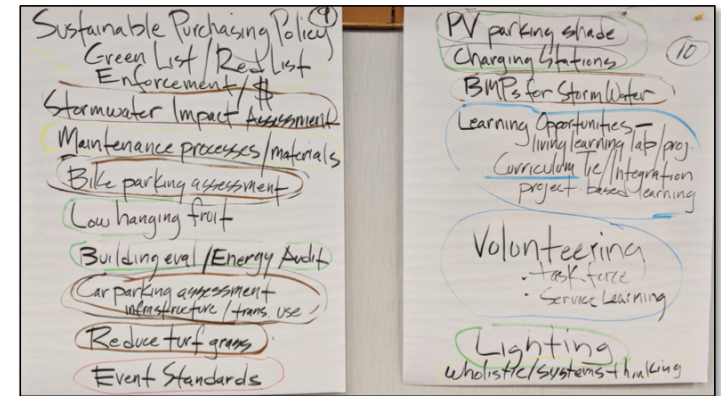
# ESAC Timeline and Milestones



# Initial Brainstorm and Planning

## First Meeting – May 2018

- Group introduction exercise
- Idea Brainstorm
- Identify “categories” or themes
- Follow up homework survey



# Organized Topic Teams to Complete Case Studies

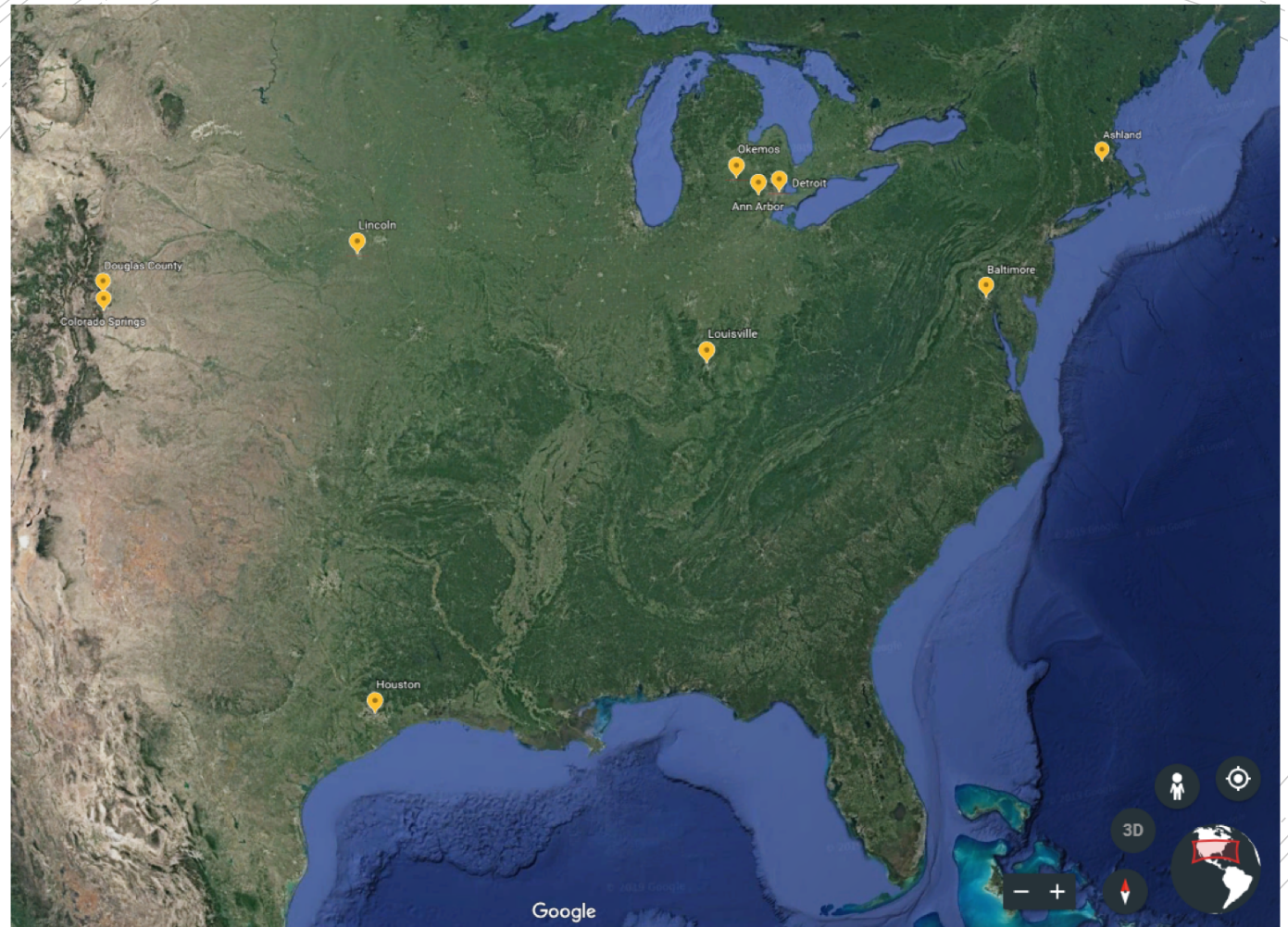
## Second Meeting – June 2018

- Members self-selected groups to join:
  - Building Energy and Water Usage
  - Indoor Environments
  - Site and Grounds
  - Student, Staff, and Community Engagement
  - Waste Reduction

*Teams tasked with completing exemplar case studies and reporting to the entire committee*



# Case Studies Presented by Topic Teams



Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee – June 19, 2019

# Case Studies Presented by Topic Teams

**Jefferson County Schools (Louisville, KY)** – Waste Reduction – Interviewees: Joe Irwin, Environmental Coordinator

**Lincoln School District (Lincoln, NE)** – Waste Reduction

**Colorado Springs District 11 (Colorado Springs, CO)** – Building Energy and Water Usage (Best Practice) – Interviewees: Travis Whitley, Resource Conservation Program Coordinator; Josh Chism, Assistant Director of Facilities and Energy Manager

**Various K-12 schools/universities (ESCOs and GRFs)** – Building Energy and Water Usage

**Conroe Independent School District (Houston, TX)** – Building Energy and Water Usage (LED Lighting Upgrade) – Interviewees: Roger Garvey, CISD Energy Manager

**Ashland Public School District (Ashland, MA)** – Indoor Environment (Wireless radiation) – Interviewees: Cecelia Doucette, former technology grant coordinator

**Douglas County School District (Douglas County, CO)** – Building Energy and Water Usage (Best Practice) – Interviewees: Lee Smith, former Energy Manager

**Okemos Public Schools (Okemos, MI)** – Building Energy and Water Usage (The Okemos Schools Energy Initiative) – Interviewees: Miles Bolton, VP of Okemos High School Environmental Club

**Baltimore School District (Baltimore, MD)** – Student, Staff and Community Engagement (Green, Healthy, Smart Challenge Grants) – Interviewees: Abby Cocke, Environmental Planner, Manager – Green, Healthy, Smart Challenge

**Detroit Public Schools Community District (Detroit, MI)** – Student, Staff and Community Engagement (DPSCD Go Green Challenge) – Interviewees: Anna Balzer, Program Manager of the Detroit Youth Energy Squad

**Ann Arbor Public Schools (Ann Arbor, MI)** – Site and Grounds (Pioneer Prairie)

# AAPS Board Policy 8000: Environmental Sustainability

**Adopted 12/12/2018**

*The Ann Arbor Public Schools recognizes that:*

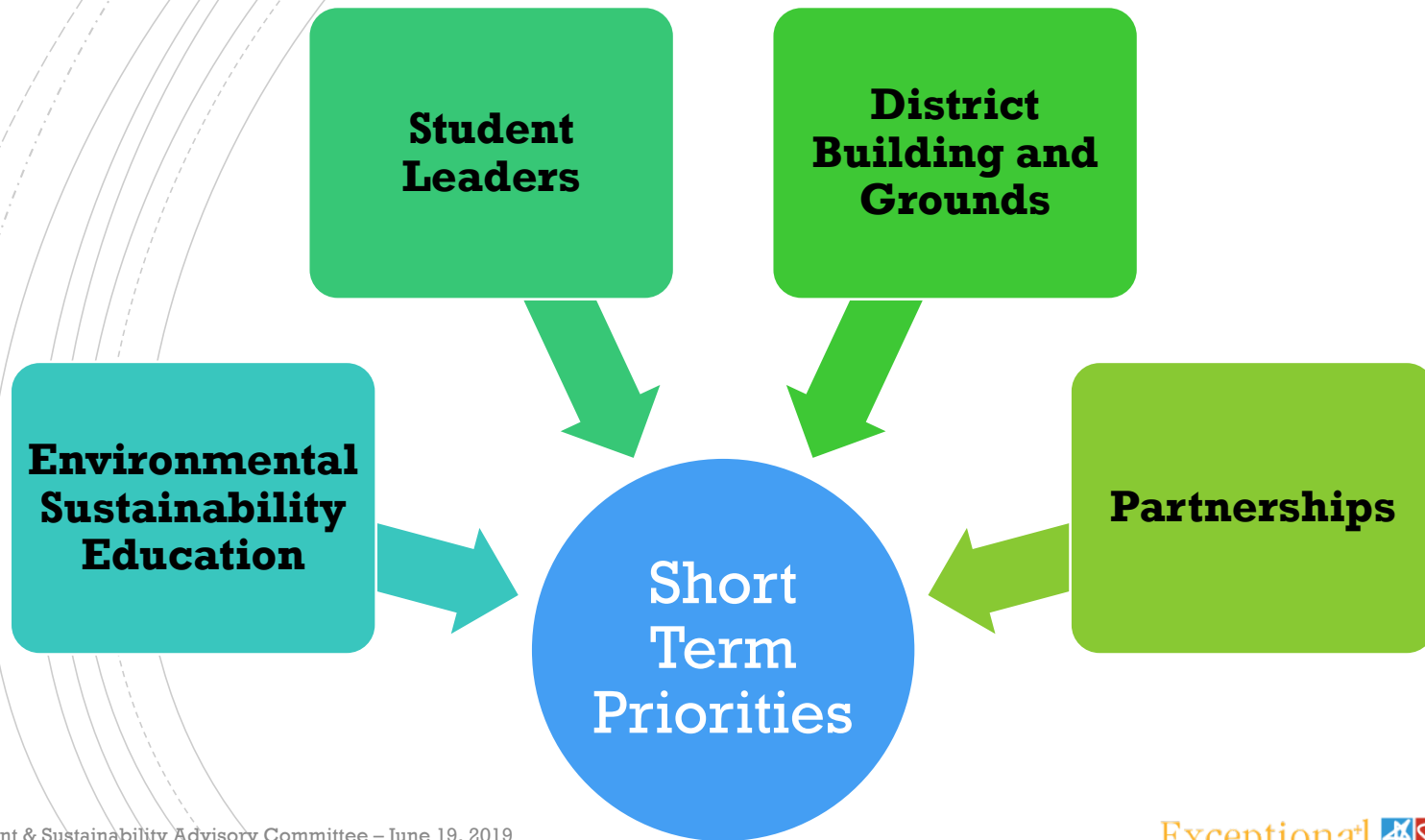
- *Climate change is real, increasing, and caused by human activity; and*
- *the Ann Arbor community is committed to practices that support a healthy environment for present and future generations; and*
- *the District has a responsibility to help prepare current and future generations to respond to climate change through the reduction of harmful human activities, the promotion of human activities that restore the environment, and the development of strategies to adapt to climate change.*

*The District will support the prioritization of:*

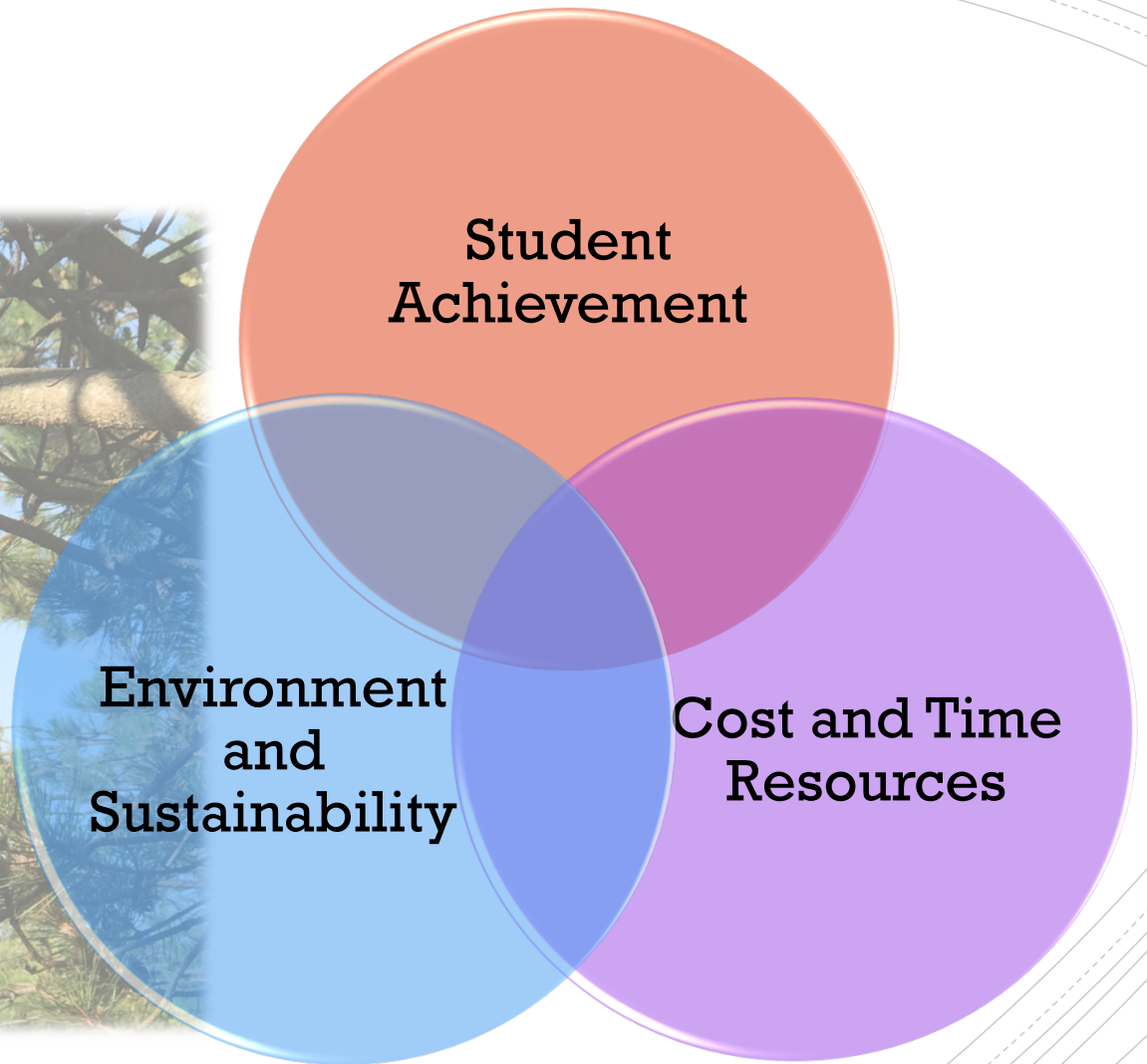
- ***Environmental sustainability education** that prepares present and future generations to become thoughtful stewards of the environment; and*
- *developing **student leaders** prepared to succeed in an uncertain climate change future; and*
- *maintaining and operating **district buildings and grounds** that reduce the environmental impact of human activities, promote the restoration of the environment, and adapt to climate change; and*
- *building and enhancing **partnerships** that support the Ann Arbor community's environmental principles.*
- *The Superintendent and/or designee(s) will report annually to the Board of Education on activities related to this policy.*



# Filter 1 - Board Policy



## Filter 2 - Impacts



# Prioritization – Group Exercise

1	Implement a district-wide Sustainable Schools Program
2	Use school campus and building as a living/learning lab with curriculum integration
3	<b>Measure and Reduce utility consumption - Electric, Natural Gas, Water and Stormwater*</b>
4	<b>Utilize Elementary Schools as neighborhood centers of engagement - bringing together students, staff, teachers and parents through sustainability initiatives*</b>
5	<b>Enhance and repair current recycling system to reduce landfill input/increase diversion rate of waste stream*</b>
6	<b>Plant trees for shading*</b>
7	<b>Establish a building energy improvement plan for each building*</b>
8	Establish performance criteria for new construction and major renovations
9	Manage environmental factors for impact on student health, wellness, and performance
10	Enhance gardening programs
11	<b>Recommend a Board Sustainability Policy*</b>

\*short term

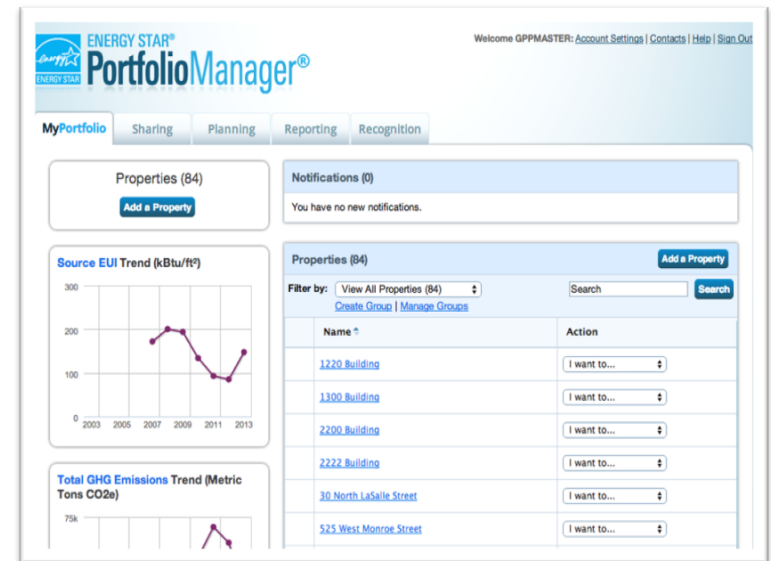
# Short Term Priorities

## Energy and Water Conservation

- Reduce Utility Consumption
- Develop Individual Building Improvement Plans

### **Action Item:**

**Benchmark Energy and Water Use**



# Short Term Priorities

## Recycling Program

- Repair and Enhance Current Recycling Program
- Reduce Single-Use Pollutant Items

### **Action Item:**

**Launch Enhanced Recycling Program**





# Short Term Priorities

## Living/Learning Initiatives

- Elementary schools as neighborhood centers of engagement in sustainability
- Use school campus and building as living/learning lab: example – Freeman Environmental Education Center
- Create more opportunities for Volunteers

### **Action Item:**

**Document current school-based initiatives**



# Mid to Long-Term Considerations

## Student, Staff and Comm. Engagement

- **Sustainable Schools Program**
  - Implement a district-wide initiative
- **Focus on Climate Change**
  - Build education and tools/resources for school community

## Building Energy and Water Usage

- **Clean energy plan**
  - Develop comprehensive district clean energy plan
- **Energy guidelines**
  - Establish performance criteria for new construction and major renovations

## Waste Reduction

- **Composting initiative**
  - Decrease food waste and increase composting to reduce landfill input/increase diversion rate of waste stream

# Mid to Long-Term Considerations

## Indoor Environment

- **Student health, wellness and performance**
  - Manage environmental factors for:
    - Create optimized lighting, acoustic, and thermal environments
    - Reduced chemical use
    - Measure and improve indoor air quality
    - Reduce exposure to - Wi-Fi/cellular radiation
    - Develop formal green cleaning policy

## Site and Grounds

- **Stormwater plan**
  - Conduct a stormwater impact assessment
    - Install more rain gardens
- **Increase native landscaping and reduce invasive species**
  - Consider “No Mow” approach
  - Reduce outdoor water usage
  - Reduce use of salt for snow removal



# AAPS Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee

## *Next Steps*

- Continued participation from students, teachers and staff
- Develop a strategy to engage key external stakeholder organizations

