



## ADVANCING OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

### AWARD-WINNING LEADERSHIP

Recognizing our role as global citizens, St. Mark's School actively fosters environmental stewardship and sustainable development in its education, planning and practices. Since 2015, St. Mark's has taken a thoughtful and well-planned approach to sustainability to serve as a model for our students and other schools seeking to make lasting positive change. This is evident through our climate action plan, student activism on projects such as reducing food waste and organizing campus clean-ups, our commitment to drawdown direct fossil fuel investments for our endowment, as well as our external partnerships with peer schools and the Global Educators Benchmark Group (GEBG).

In recognition of its efforts, St. Mark's School was the recipient of the **2024 "Best of Green Schools"** award in the K-12 School category, from the Green Schools National Network and Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council. The Center for Green Schools and Green Schools National Network received hundreds of nominations of individuals and organizations that have made an impact in advancing green schools, thus placing St. Mark's at the leading edge of this important work.



### WHAT COMES NEXT?

The St. Mark's Sustainability Team continues to pursue projects with a high return-on-investment to help the bottom line while also reducing the school's carbon footprint. We are excited to continue our engagement with the campus community over the coming year, as we begin thinking about future goals and envision the next phase of St. Mark's commitment to sustainability.

### OUR PROGRESS ON CLIMATE ACTION

In 2021, St. Mark's adopted its first climate action plan, with a goal of reducing campus greenhouse gas emissions 10 percent below 2015 levels by 2025. We are pleased to present this interim update on our progress:

- >>>> Currently **on track** to meet our 2025 goal
- >>>> Partnering with **National Grid and Eversource** to identify and incentivize efficiency projects
- >>>> 19 energy **efficiency projects** were funded from 2019 through 2023.

#### Cumulatively Resulting in:

- **\$400,000+** IN UTILITY COST SAVINGS
- RECEIVED REBATES OF NEARLY **\$500,000**
- **1,390** TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub>e EMISSIONS AVOIDED  
= THE ANNUAL ENERGY USE OF **175 HOMES**

- >>>> Key projects included:
  - **Net-zero** ready residence hall construction
  - LED lighting retrofits replacing more than **1,200 fixtures** across campus
  - **Insulation** of the Gardner Rink walls and ceiling
  - **HVAC upgrades**; new heat pump heating system and controls in the Armour Cage and retrofitting motors across campus with variable frequency drives
  - **Energy audits** of all faculty homes

- >>>> We engaged the St. Mark's community in a range of activities including:

- **CAMPUS** CLEAN-UP EVENTS
- PLANTED **60+** TREES/SHRUBS
- **FOOD WASTE** REDUCTION WITH FLIK DINING
- **EDUCATE** NEW EMPLOYEES ON SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES
- LOCAL CONFERENCE **PARTICIPATION**