

Shoreline School District
King County, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Washington
Climate Justice and Sustainability
Resolution 2024-1

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Shoreline School District No. 412, King County, Shoreline and Lake Forest Park, Washington to commit to 1) achieving a 40% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050 (compared to a 2019 baseline), 2) educate for and around climate and other environmental impacts with a focus on equity, environmental justice and climate justice; and 3) protect our students and families from the worsening impacts of climate change with a focus on climate justice and environmental justice.

WHEREAS, the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report of 2022, the Sixth International Assessment](#), sets targets for deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 followed by global net zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2050 in order to allow us the best chance to minimize global warming by 1.5 degrees Celsius; and

WHEREAS, in [2020, the Washington State Legislature set greenhouse gas emissions reductions in RCW 70A.45.020](#) to 45% below 1990 levels by 2030, 70% below 1990 levels by 2040, and 95% below 1990 levels and net zero emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in [2021 the Washington State Legislature passed The Healthy Environment for All Act \(HEAL Act\)](#) making environmental justice a priority and part of the mission of key state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the [EPA's 2021 Report on Climate Change and Social Vulnerability](#) found that the impacts of climate change, air pollution, and environmental burdens are disproportionately experienced by Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color through negative health and economic impacts; and

WHEREAS, the [King County Strategic Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#) calls for a 50% reduction in greenhouse gasses by 2030 and an 80% reduction by 2050. Additionally, they call for reduced energy use and increased efficiency in transportation and building and facilities. Furthermore, they call for the use of green building practices and achieving zero waste by 2030. The [SCAP](#) also calls for addressing social inequalities simultaneously to prioritize equity and solutions that have benefits for the environment and for people including community leadership, community health, food security, housing security, energy justice, transportation access and equity; and

WHEREAS, the [City of Shoreline's 2022 Climate Action Plan](#) sets the goals to achieve a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2050 (compared to a 2019 baseline), improve the health of local ecosystems, and protect the community from worsening impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the [Seattle Public School District passed a resolution in 2020](#) to commit to transitioning their school district off fossil fuels for all of its operations including heating, cooking, and transportation no later than 2040; and

WHEREAS, the federal [2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) invests \$1.2 trillion to update the national infrastructure and support clean energy projects including supporting electrification of school buses and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, the Shoreline School District has taken multiple steps to reduce carbon emissions including the purchase of two electric school buses, the installation of solar panels on nine (9) school buildings (Aldercrest, Briarcrest, Parkwood, Edwin Pratt, Syre, Einstein, Kellogg, Shorecrest, and Shorewood), and the creation of courses on climate change, climate justice, and environmental justice; and

WHEREAS, the Shoreline School District has passed the [Ethnic Studies](#) and [Anti-Racism](#) resolutions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Shoreline School District No. 412 hereby commits to achieving a 40% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (compared to a 2019 baseline) and net zero emissions by 2050; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board encourages the district to take advantage of grant opportunities through the State and/or the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to apply for grants for electric buses, charging infrastructure, and workforce development training; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District shall consider climate justice, environmental justice, and Tribal priorities in all new building, renovation, transportation, food, purchasing, and curriculum decision-making; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board recommends establishing a task force to support the development of an implementation plan for this resolution that may include representatives from the administration, facilities, transportation, equity departments, students, teachers, and parents that represent the diversity of the District. In addition, the Board recommends including in the task force or using as thought partners climate, environmental justice, clean energy, and bus electrification experts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the implementation plan should adopt accountability measures through tracking carbon footprint, greenhouse gas emissions, and measuring disproportionate impacts for low-income and communities of color; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the implementation plan shall also include measures that advance racial, environmental, and economic justice by prioritizing infrastructure investments in the highest-needs students and schools, and by supporting strong labor and community workforce agreements that create employment opportunities in frontline and underserved communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District should build partnerships with Tribes in order to incorporate Tribal needs and perspectives into the implementation plan and future curriculum development; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the implementation plan should include recommendations for integrating climate science, climate justice, environmental justice, and sustainability into curriculum, and by incorporating school facilities resource conservation efforts into project- and place-based learning, professional development opportunities for teachers, and learning opportunities that leverage Career and Technical Education career pathways; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District will explore partnerships with the City of Shoreline, the City of Lake Forest Park, the University of Washington, Shoreline Community College, and non-profit organizations to co-create and implement real-world, experiential projects that students can participate in to develop hands-on knowledge of solutions for climate adaptation, climate justice, and environmental justice as well as to prepare for green workforce jobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that staff will provide updated benchmarking of progress in implementing the resolution annually, starting in the winter/spring of 2028; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any fossil fuel-powered equipment identified for replacement beginning in the fall of 2027 should be replaced with equipment powered by clean electricity, recommendations for which may be further informed by the task force's implementation plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any new District buildings or renovations that commence planning after spring of 2027 shall prohibit fossil fuel infrastructure, prioritize zero-carbon energy sources, and prioritize green building and salmon-safe landscaping wherever possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any new vehicles purchased by the District beginning in the spring of 2027 will prioritize the selection of zero-emission vehicles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that by 2030 the District should create a plan, starting with Title 1 schools, to improve indoor air quality, including updating the air filtration systems in all schools, so that every student has access to cleaner air, particularly on smoky days, updating AC/heat pumps in buildings for hotter days. Further, the District should plan for updating indoor air quality in schools by exploring what might be removed (e.g. carpeting) or added (e.g. hypoallergenic materials) to address health issues and inequities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that during redevelopment or renovations the District will prioritize environment-friendly landscaping, including permeable surfaces, native plants, food gardens and food forests, and daylighting streams; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District will institute district-wide sustainable practices including district-wide composting, prioritizing durable materials and eliminating single use plastics, and prioritize sustainable and local sourcing for materials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District will prioritize the sourcing of local and fresh produce for students, particularly for students experiencing food insecurity. The District should prioritize creating and supporting food gardens and food forests at schools especially in partnership with the cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park as well as local neighborhoods and community organizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board supports a statewide legislative agenda that improves the District's ability to advance decarbonization through increased electrification of energy use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board supports a statewide legislative agenda that includes funding to improve the District's ability to advance Green Building Certifications for new buildings and remodeling; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board calls on city, county, state, and federal officials and agencies to work alongside the District in taking swift, effective action on the climate emergency to protect current and future students, their families, and the communities in which they live; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs the Superintendent to oversee the development of an implementation plan and accountability process to meet the goals of this resolution (e.g. convene a task force, timeline, and process for reviewing progress, etc.). A report on the status of the development of this plan will be presented to the Board no later than winter/spring 2027.

ADOPTED this 16th day of April, 2024.

Dissented:


Shoreline Board of Directors




Emily Williams, President



Sara Beigel, Vice President



Dr. Sarah Cohen, Director




Sylvia Gil, Director



Meghan Jernigan, Director

Attest: April 16, 2024



Dr. Susana Reyes, Secretary
Shoreline Board of Directors