

Philosophic and Foundational Commitments 1001 Environmental Initiatives	Administrative Application	
	Last Reviewed /Approved on:	August 14, 2024
	References:	Policy 12 – Role of the Director
	Status:	Operational

Preamble

The Regina Catholic School Division (RCSD) is dedicated to the promotion of environmental awareness and environmentally positive attitudes and actions. Based on our Catholic belief that our loving God has appointed us stewards of His creation, we are committed to the following:

1. The stewardship of our earth is the individual and collective responsibility of all members within our school division.
2. As stewards of the environment, we adopt a sense of commitment through our leadership role within the community.
3. In living our roles as stewards, we promote educational experiences in our organization so that awareness may lead to action that sustains God's gift of creation.
4. Land based learning – Reciprocity with the land.

Application

1. **Awareness/Attitudes/Action**
All school division employees are encouraged to assume environmental leadership roles. These roles could include:
 - a. Providing students, staff and school community with knowledge, skills and attitudes conducive to decision making and actions which are environmentally responsible. Respect Indigenous ways of knowing and doing.
 - b. Assisting in the development and on-going review of environmental awareness.
2. **Responsibility/Commitment**
As stewards we have a responsibility for the care and safeguarding of the work, recreational and educational environment.
 - a. Action taken by all school division personnel should consider the following:
 - i. Making environmentally responsible purchases by:

- (1) Considering a product's longevity of use.
 - (2) Selecting products that are recyclable and/or made from recycled materials.
 - (3) Selecting alternatives to products whose use and/or disposal can be harmful to the environment.
 - (4) Reviewing the selection and use of products such as cleaning agents and paints.
- ii. Conserving materials and energy by reducing their use.
 - iii. Storing and disposing of hazardous waste materials.
 - iv. Cooperating with environmental programs sponsored by community and governmental agencies.
- b. Personnel in leadership positions are encouraged to assign responsibility for environmental programs to a specific staff member or staff committee.

3. **Educational Experiences**

According to their responsibilities and duties, each member of the school division is encouraged to model actions consistent with this application and are encouraged to:

- a. Provide staff with professional development opportunities that reflect on-going issues and current developments in environmental initiatives.
- b. Ensure implementation of curricula that relates to the environmental themes.
- c. Organize activities for students, staff, and parents/guardians to promote awareness and understanding of environmental issues and solutions related to curricular outcomes.
- d. Participate in the development of "action plans" which ensure that initiatives directed at environment education occur not only on designated days or weeks but also throughout the school year.
- e. Invite the community-at-large to participate in the school division's environmental education initiatives.
- f. Collaborating land base learning opportunities.