

SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENERGY ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our Purpose Statement

As a learning institution, Saint Paul Public Schools has the **opportunity to raise awareness of sustainable energy practices** with positive impacts extending far beyond the classroom. Our District's ambition is to **foster a culture of sustainability** and instill environmental self-efficacy through education, outreach, and collaboration across the District.

Reducing our environmental impact through energy conservation and efficiency must actively and equitably engage our students, teachers, administrators and the entire Saint Paul Public Schools community.

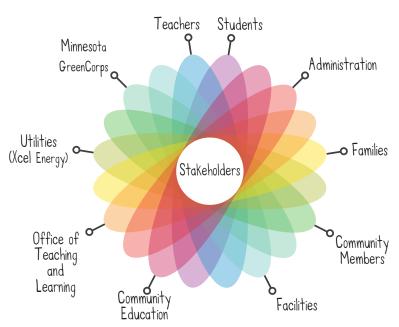
This Energy Action Plan is our strategy for achieving District-wide commitment to energy stewardship by **fostering healthy and sustainable schools** that positively impact our students' learning experience and **empower them to be environmentally literate leaders of tomorrow**.

What is an Energy Action Plan?

Our Energy Action plan outlines the necessary framework for effective and lasting energy reduction and set the District on a path towards achieving its energy vision by doing the following:

- Identify the appropriate goals and strategies to help achieve that vision.
- Engage and motivate our community to take action to achieve our goals.
- · Monitor and track our results.
- Celebrate our achievements and promote our successes.
- Carry forward our energy momentum for the long term.

This Plan will involve stakeholders from across the entire SPPS community to create and achieve our energy vision. We hope those who support and participate in these strategies will feel empowered, engaged, and energized!





How are we going to get there?

To achieve a District-wide commitment to energy stewardship, the Energy Action Team identified two focus areas to prioritize strategies and resources:

- Facilities and Operations: All buildings and properties owned by Saint Paul Public Schools, and their operational procedures.
- **Community:** Members of the community that use SPPS buildings, including students, teachers, staff and administration, groups who rent space, families, and community education groups.

Facilities and Operations Strategies





Strategy B: Train and educate building engineers and trades on building energy management best practices



Strategy C: Coordinate with Board of Education on sustainability and energy management



Strategy D: Explore renewable energy options for SPPS Facilities





Community Strategies

Strategy E: Host a behavior change competition between schools to promote best management practices

E1

E2

E3

E4

Conduct walk-through classroom energy audits with students to identify classroom energy saving opportunities Design school vs. school behavior change competition to promote best practices based on results of classroom energy audits Provide education and outreach to students, teachers, and staff about their buildings' energy use Distribute energy meters to demonstrate impact of changing behaviors, even small actions

Strategy F: Share energy efficiency learning activities

F1

F2

_ F3

Publicize the availability of Xcel Energy's off-the-shelf school solution for fifth grade teachers

Work with Office of Teaching and Learning to discuss opportunities to add energy and climate into their existing classroom activities

Engage Discovery Club Leadership to identify the best ways to incorporate energy efficiency into learning opportunities

Strategy G: Communicate benefits of energy efficiency to SPPS Community

G1

G2

G3

Share stories about what the District is doing for energy efficiency and renewable energy

Use social media to communicate regularly during Energy Action Plan implementation

Share energy impact information with SPPS community using the District communication channels

Strategy H: Expanding energy career pathways and extracurricular opportunities

H1

H2

H3

Create an environmental club kit to help schools create their own club based on best practices from existing clubs Create club activities to engage environmental clubs during implementation to share message of Energy Action Plan Use the career academy and pathways program to host a construction job fair with an opportunity to meet SPPS Facilities and Operations staff





Energy Action Plan Impact



A **45%** reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, which is equivalent to removing more than **1,000** passenger vehicles from the road for a year.



\$3.9 million on energy bills through participation in Xcel Energy programs.



Engagement of all schools, impacting more than **35,000** students and more than **6,000** staff.



New culture of **sustainability** across all divisions and departments.

How to Get Involved

Visit SPPS.org/EnergyActionPlan to read the full plan.

Saint Paul Public Schools is committed to reducing our environmental impact through energy conservation and efficiency, and equitably engaging our community.

Learn how you can support SPPS in achieving our energy vision by contacting

Minnesota GreenCorps

Member Ally Peters at apeters.mgc@spps.org.



The content of this plan is derived from a series of planning workshops hosted by Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy. Thank you to Saint Paul Public Schools Energy Action Team who contributed many hours of service and to SPPS high school and middle school students who completed a survey to give us their input.

