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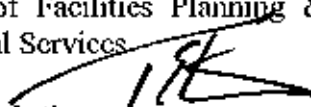
Enactment Date

By

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the State Administrator

May 9, 2007

To: Kimberly Statham, Ph.D., State Administrator for the Oakland Unified School District and the Board of Education

From: Timothy E. White, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities Planning & Management, Buildings & Grounds and Custodial Services 

Subject: **Authorizing and Adopting a District-wide Resolution on Sustainability and the Design and Construction of High Performance (CHPS) Schools for the Oakland Unified School District.**

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval by State Administrator of Resolution No. 0607-0158 on behalf of the District authorizing and adopting a District-wide Resolution on Sustainability and the Design and Construction of High Performance (CHPS) Schools for the Oakland Unified School District.

SUMMARY:

Oakland Unified School District will implement a District-wide Program for High Performance Schools, which will include updating of the District Design Standards, general sustainability initiative proposals such as improved recycling and environmentally preferable purchasing programs and a general plan for using energy and water more efficiently, leading to lower utility bills, increased academic performance, better health and human productivity, learning environments with better attendance as well as recruitment and retention, less resource waste and stronger environmental stewardship. The District resolution calls for adopting the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) Best Practices, as a basis for adapting sustainable design and maintenance/operations guidelines for new, retrofit, and existing buildings, providing tools for training support, and guidance to staff and administrators in establishing operational guidelines as well as curriculum integration.

DISCUSSION:

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The passage of Proposition 1D last November included a set-aside program of \$100 Million in additional incentive grants for high performance schools. Specifically, those projects submitted for OPSC new construction or modernization grant funding, assuming basic eligibility, would qualify for a range of approximately 2% to 10% incremental additional funds linked to a range of points above minimum CHPS verified rating, up to eighty some points for the maximum funding.

Beyond the academic, health, and other qualitative benefits, there are additional financial benefits to implementing a high performance schools program district-wide. Oakland Unified School District can save approximately \$750,000 to \$1 Million annually, by establishing a consistent approach to energy and water retrofits in any new construction, and maintenance alone. Including resource use as a factor in building retrofit and design projects can help develop buildings that use less energy and water on an ongoing basis, thereby continuing to reduce utility bills, and freeing up money from the General Fund for other purposes.

BACKGROUND:

A growing body of research and experience indicates that high performance building practices, both in design and construction and in ongoing operation and maintenance, leads to increased employee and student health, comfort, and productivity. High building performance also helps reduce utility expenditures and use fewer resources. Other public agencies that have implemented green building policies have found that upfront capital costs may increase between zero and two or more percent, but that ongoing operation and maintenance costs are significantly lower. (See two studies included in the Board packet regarding 'Daylighting in Schools' and 'Greening America's Schools Costs and Benefits.')

Establishing a district-wide sustainability and high performance schools program is consistent with State policy. In December 2004, the Governor issued Executive Order S-20-04, which calls for the State of California to "commit to aggressive action to reduce state building electricity usage by retrofitting, building and operating the most energy and resource efficient buildings by taking all cost-effective measures described in the Green Building Action Plan for facilities owned, funded or leased by the state and to encourage cities, counties and schools to do the same." The Executive Order notes that "high-performance schools also reduce energy and resource consumption, while creating safer and healthier learning environments." In addition, the Executive Order also directs the Division of the State Architect to adopt guidelines to "enable and encourage schools built with state funds to be resource and energy efficient." The guidelines that were adopted within the regulations is now defined as the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) criteria for California public schools.

More recent California state action towards mandatory phased reduction of greenhouse gases and the addressing of climate change further reinforce the alignment of a District-wide Sustainability and High Performance Schools (CHPS) Program. Oakland Unified currently does not have a consistent approach to energy usage and expenditures, nor does

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the District have an operational program nor design standard for new projects that is consistent with high performance, sustainable buildings.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of Resolution 0607-0158 adopting a District-wide Resolution for Sustainability and a High Performance (CHPS) Schools Program for Oakland Unified School District.

FUNDING SOURCE:

The initial funding for development of a district-wide CHPS program including updating of the district standards and project-based collaboration to aid individual facilities construction projects to meet CHPS criteria will be covered by the Measure B Bond Funding. Other funding for energy audits will be provided by Pacific Gas & Electric and the California Energy Commission; if the District implements the recommendations in those audits funds for additional audits likely will be available. The other elements of the plan will be implemented into ongoing operations using existing budgets.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution 0607-0158 establishing the development of a District-wide Sustainability and High Performance (CHPS) Schools Program for Oakland Unified School District, and Attachment A, the 'Daylighting in Schools' study and Attachment B, "Greening of America's Schools Costs & Benefits" report .

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**RESOLUTION
OF THE
STATE ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NO. 0607-0158**

**AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE DISTRICT-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY
& THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH PERFORMANCE SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, Students and staff are entitled to a safe and healthy school environment, and studies have indicated that student achievement is greater and attendance higher, and teacher and staff retention is improved, when the learning environment is naturally lit, comfortable and well maintained;

WHEREAS, Schools should employ design, construction and operation strategies that minimize operating costs, in particular for energy and water use as studies show that new facility energy costs, for example, can be reduced by 25 percent or more;

WHEREAS, Schools that follow sustainable design principals can contribute to our community's environment by minimizing waste and air and water pollution;

WHEREAS, the District's program to build new schools and renovate existing ones provides a unique opportunity to move beyond standard designs;

WHEREAS, the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) has developed comprehensive design criteria based on the latest available information on sustainable school design, construction, and operation; and

WHEREAS, Schools designed to meet the CHPS criteria incorporate environmental features that provide a context for learning;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Oakland Unified School District Board of Education recognizes the progress already made by the District's staff and certain design teams to incorporate sustainable design criteria into the District's school construction program; and

RESOLVED further, That the Board directs staff to expand this effort into a District-wide OUSD CHPS Program to ensure that every new school, new building, modernization, and maintenance project, from the beginning of the design process, incorporate CHPS criteria and best practices to the extent feasible; that the next round of construction projects minimally meet the latest edition of CHPS qualifying criteria to achieve CHPS certification, whether new construction or addition/modernization, (currently 32 and 25 points respectively,) and preferably, to the highest level of points practical to maximize funding incentives, and further, that the focus be on criteria in the following priority areas as defined by the District-wide CHPS Program implementation plan :

1) Student performance and staff health through measures such as natural daylighting, the use of non toxic-emitting materials, including "green" cleaning practices, and sound insulation or isolation to minimize noise and enhance classroom acoustical quality; 2) operating cost minimization, through resource efficiency; 3) minimizing the impact of District operations on the environment 4) taking advantage of financial incentive programs.

RESOLVED further, that the Board of Education directs staff to follow the CHPS Roadmap and scorecard to ensure the efficient and complete implementation of CHPS, including creating a performance tracking system to ensure the effective implementation of the CHPS criteria throughout design, construction and operation; and

RESOLVED further, That the Board of Education endorses District participation in and directs staff to pursue partnerships that further the goal of high performance schools, including Federal, State and utility programs that provide sustainable design financial incentives, and;

RESOLVED further, that the Board of Education directs staff, during the design phase of the remaining projects in the current construction and modernization program and all such future projects, to require architects with consultants and staff to verify that their District project(s) have met or exceeded the minimum requirements for CHPS certification, and report the scores for all of the CHPS categories; and

RESOLVED further, that the Board of Education directs staff to report to the Board, within 180 days of the passage of this resolution, on the District's plan to comply with this Resolution; and

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education directs staff to report to the Board annually on the progress of this program, and provide bi-annual summary statistics on the number of new schools and modernization projects designed and the percentage which have incorporated CHPS design criteria, and other statistics useful in assessing the progress of this effort.

Kimberly Statham, Ph.D.
State Administrator
Oakland Unified School District