

# SUSTAINABILITY

## Strategic Plan 2015

### 1. What does a sustainable school look like?

#### A. EDUCATION

- Has a sustainable strand in every classroom
- Uses the outdoors as an extension of the classroom on a year-long basis
- Reflects sustainable values and good stewardship in every aspect of classroom activities (eg. printing and paper use, trash sorting, lights, etc.)
- **Students appear as the best advocates for sustainable values**

#### B. ENERGY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Employs alternative energy sources (eg. solar)
- Promotes efficiency in teacher and parent transportation (eg. anti-idling education, car-pooling site, hybrid car hookups)
- Promotes and exercises efficiency in student transportation (sports events, field trips, 9<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Establishes measures for water conservation both inside and outside the school
- Has minimal packaging for snacks and lunch food
- **Establishes and follows a waste-management protocol for all Pike events in every area of the school (eg. separation of compost, recycling and trash in every public space, both inside the school and on the grounds and athletic fields)**

#### C. GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

- Operates a year round garden program for all grades in the LS and MS
- Has a greenhouse that can allow said program to be year round and to involve US as well as LS and MS
- Incorporates education into the program on all levels
- **Offers a plant unit in all divisions of the school that can offer hands on activities in growing, harvesting, composting and observational skills**

#### D. GENERAL

- **Sustainability at Pike is apparent to any first time visitor to the school due to marketing and transparency of values and expectations**
- **Sustainability is visible and represented at all public events such as Open House, Back to School Night, Art Show, International Supper, etc.**

## **2. What does Pike need to do to get there?**

### **A. EDUCATION**

- **Establish a core group of adults in each division and department of the school that is committed to environmental literacy and can oversee its implementation in the curriculum and in school life (eg. Admin, Maintenance, Office staff, Cafeteria, Parents, Board of Trustees, LS, MS, US (each dept.))**
- Organize more grade-wide and division-wide trail walks for special events like Earth day, buddy time, etc.
- Provide more training for teachers to feel more comfortable using the trail with kids and for using the garden in their curricula.

### **B. ENERGY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT**

- **Energy:**
  - Establish a public education program and on-site model to educate and advertise the use of an off-site solar system
  - Establish a public education program for transportation issues
  - Monitor water use and look for ways to conserve
- **Waste Management:**
  - **Establish and maintain sets of uniform and labeled waste management bins that allow for proper separation of materials, both inside and outside the school**
  - **Work closely with the Office, Cafeteria and Maintenance staff to ensure bins are available and emptied at all Pike special events**
- **Paper Use**
  - Put up “Proper usage” signs at all printers and copiers
  - Encourage use of more online forms (parent forms, assignments, etc.) that don’t need to be printed.
  - Encourage use of reusing paper for written assignments, especially in the lower grades.
  - Ask Technology to include printing expectations in discussions with students and faculty at the start of the year.

### **C. GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE**

- Build in more opportunities to use garden in the LS and MS curricula
- **Establish an on-site composting system for use in the garden**
- **Research and initiate the construction of a greenhouse on the Pike campus**

### **D. GENERAL**

- **Allow Sustainability the same school-wide recognition and authority as other Pike committees (Diversity, Technology, etc.)**
- **Allow access to Admin team agendas so Sustainability can be represented along with other school-wide initiatives**
- **Review and restate all Pike committees in terms of responsibilities and membership.**
- **Post a mission statement of sustainability on Pike website**
- **Communicate expectations to all community members through a blog, Pike School handbook, new teacher orientation packet, etc.**

- **Set aside time to discuss the role of sustainability and expectations with all three divisions and make committee work more visible to the community**