

Resolution Preparation Guidance and Resources

7/20/20

The following background information may be useful in communicating with School Administration and Green Teams about the program as you begin .

----- Background information -----

Resolution to Participate in Minnesota GreenStep Schools

Minnesota's public school districts, charter schools, and private schools are in a unique position to make substantial contributions toward the goal of a sustainable world for future generations. Schools engage a community of students, families, educators and other staff. A school that embraces and promotes sustainability in its various operations, including planning, facilities, teaching, and outreach, will help to instill in the school community a shared understanding of the importance of sustainability and how each person can help achieve it.

Minnesota GreenStep Schools is a **free and voluntary** statewide best practices framework, community of practice, and recognition program for public and private K-12 schools and districts to reduce environmental impact and costs, improve health and well-being of students and staff, and provide effective environmental and sustainability education

Step 1: Pass a Resolution. Your school board must pass a resolution that states its intention to pursue Minnesota GreenStep Schools certification and designate at least one person to be the formal liaison to the program. Use and adapt the sample resolution that follows.

As you prepare to present the resolution to the school board for its consideration, you will want to be ready with information about the Minnesota GreenStep Schools program and about the sustainability experience and interests of your school district and community. You will want to have an understanding of how the program could serve the specific priorities and interests of your school district or school. Read the website, past agendas and minutes and find a copy of the latest strategic plan. Talk to board staff, a board member, someone with prior board experience or a community member who has worked on school board matters. Use these resources as the basis for planning and communicating how Minnesota GreenStep Schools would serve your community.

Online Resources (Board Preparation Kit)

There are some resources and suggestions that can be found under the "Best Practice 0.2 GreenStep Schools Resolution." See details at this [LINK](#). It is a good idea to ask board staff to help you determine how much information to provide to the board members, and when.

- **bp0.2 Resolution Preparation Guidance and Resources (this document)**

- **MN GreenStep Schools Summary Slide Deck Template (as of 7/20/20)**

This basic slide deck about Minnesota GreenStep Schools best practices, guiding principles, and benefits takes content from the website and presents it in a powerpoint format that you can adapt for your audience.

- **MN GreenStep Schools Executive Summary (2 pages, as of 7/20/20)**

A short, 2-page document that can be used as a handout.

- **bp0.2 Sample school board resolution to participate in Minnesota GreenStep Schools**

This template shows one example of compliant text and other suggestions to consider in creating your school board resolution.

- **bp0.2 School Participation Commitment Template**

This template is for use to establish the commitment of individual schools within a district to participate in the MN GreenStep Schools program. If principals have already signed the district's Resolution to participate in MN GreenStep Schools, they do not need to complete this form in addition.