The board believes that resource conservation should be an integral part of the physical operation of the school district and of the school curriculum. The board is committed to the conservation of energy and other resources as a part of prudent financial management. Schools must set an example of stewardship of our natural resources and develop responsible citizenship in our students.

The board directs the superintendent to develop and implement an energy management program that will result in energy conservation throughout the district. The program will ensure that staff, students, and all other users of facilities cooperate and support measures designed to conserve energy.

The program will integrate the concept of resource conservation, including waste reduction and recycling, into the environmental education curriculum at all levels of the school system.

Specifically, the program should be designed to decrease the amount of waste of consumable materials in the following areas:

- reduction of the consumption of consumable materials wherever possible
- full utilization of all materials prior to disposal
- minimization of the use of nonbiodegradable products wherever possible
- reusing and recycling all materials to the fullest extent possible

When practical, the district will consider generally accepted concepts and principles of ecology when writing bid specifications for material used by the school district. Staff responsible for both utilization and purchasing will have a joint responsibility to consider ecological implications of such material.

Fitness and quality being equal, the district will purchase recycled products whenever available at no more than the total cost of nonrecycled products.

In addition, the school district will cooperate with, and participate in, recycling efforts made by local governmental units.

Adopted ^