

Operational Services

Resource Conservation ¹

The Superintendent or designee shall manage a program of energy and resource conservation for the District that includes:

1. Periodic review of procurement procedures and specifications to ensure that purchased products and supplies are reusable, durable, or made from recycled materials, if economically and practically feasible. ²
2. Purchasing recycled paper and paper products in amounts that will, at a minimum, meet the specifications in the School Code, if economically and practically feasible. ³
3. Periodic review of procedures on the reduction of solid waste generated by academic, administrative, and other institutional functions. These procedures shall: (a) require recycling the District's waste stream, including landscape waste, computer paper, and white office paper, if economically and practically feasible; (b) include investigation of the feasibility of potential markets for other recyclable materials that are present in the District's waste stream; and (c) be designed to achieve, before July 1, 2020, at least a 50% reduction in the amount of solid waste that is generated by the District. ⁴
4. Adherence to energy conservation measures. ⁵

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c.

² Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c(a-5).

³ Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c(b) - (e).

⁴ Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c(e-5). Everything in this paragraph is mandatory except that the statute only "encourages" districts to investigate "potential markets for other recyclable materials that are present in the school district's waste stream." 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c(e-5) is unclear about what year or baseline number or year that a district must use to determine whether it has achieved at least a 50% reduction in the amount of solid waste that it generates by 7-1-20. One option for a baseline may be to use the date this law became effective, which was 7-18-08, or the year closest to it for which the district still retains relevant records; however, consult the board attorney for assistance in determining these baselines.

⁵ Districts are authorized to enter into *guaranteed energy savings contracts* to implement *energy conservation measures*, including any improvement, repair, or alteration of any school district building, or any equipment or fixture to be added to a district building, that is designed to reduce energy consumption or operation costs. 105 ILCS 5/19b. The guaranteed energy savings contract must provide that all payments are to be made over time, and energy cost savings must be specified and guaranteed to the extent necessary to pay the costs of the energy conservation measures. State law provides the process for requesting proposals and entering into contracts. Any contract is valid whether or not funding has been appropriated in any budget adopted by the board.

Consult the board attorney about whether an energy conservation measure qualifies for funding as an energy conservation project under the Ill. Finance Authority Act (FAA). 20 ILCS 3501/. The FAA specifically includes energy conservation projects in school districts. 20 ILCS 3501/820-10(c). The FAA's definition of *energy conservation project* is very similar to the School Code's definition of *energy conservation measure* (105 ILCS 5/19b-1.1); it also includes measures that reduce the amount of electricity or natural gas required to achieve a given end use, consistent with the definition of *energy efficiency* in the Ill. Power Agency Act. 20 ILCS 3855/1-10. Funding under the FAA requires a certification that the project will be a cost-effective energy-related project that will lower energy or utility costs in connection with the operation or maintenance of such building or facility, and will achieve energy cost savings sufficient to cover bond debt service and other project costs within 10 years from the date of project installation. 20 ILCS 3501/820-10(c).

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c and 5/19b.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs)