

National Wildlife Federation's Eco-Schools USA Alignment to the Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools Pillars of Achievement

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|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I. Environmental Impact and Energy Efficiency | | | | | | | | | See Footnote ¹ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced or eliminated greenhouse gas emissions, using an energy audit or emissions inventory and reduction plan, cost-effective energy efficiency improvements, conservation measures, and/or on-site renewable energy and/or purchase of green power |  |  | | | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved water quality, efficiency, and conservation | |  | | | | | |  | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced solid and hazardous waste production, through increased recycling, reduced consumption, and improved management, reduction, or elimination of hazardous waste streams | | | | | | |  | |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded use of alternative transportation to, during and from school, through active promotion of locally-available, energy-efficient options and implementation of alternative transportation supportive projects and policies | |  | |  | |  | | | |
| II. Healthy School Environments | | | | | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated school environmental health program based on an operations and facility-wide environmental management system that considers student, visitor and staff health and safety in all practices related to design, construction, renovation, operations, and maintenance of schools and grounds | | | | |  | | | |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High standards of nutrition, fitness, and quantity of quality outdoor time² for both students and staff | | | |  | |  | | |  |
| III. Environmental and Sustainability Education | | | | | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interdisciplinary learning about the key relationships between dynamic environmental, energy and human systems |  |  | | | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of the environment and sustainability to develop STEM content knowledge and thinking skills to prepare graduates for the 21st century technology-driven economy |  |  |  | |  | | |  | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of civic engagement knowledge and skills, and students' application of these to address sustainability and environmental issues in their community | The Eco-Schools USA Seven Step framework that is an integral part of our program aligns itself to this target under Environmental and Sustainability Education. | | | | | | | | |
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¹ The Healthy Schools Pathway is being developed and will be available by the end of November 2011.

² Local prevailing weather conditions over the course of the school year will be considered in assessing this element to account for regional variability.