

LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Resolution 2020/2021–18

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH GOALS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY,
CLEAN ENERGY AND CARBON NEUTRALITY

WHEREAS, the South Lake Tahoe community is experiencing the detrimental effects of climate change through increased temperatures, increased wildfires and associated poor air quality, extreme weather events, changes in the forms and timing of precipitation and runoff, and other environmental disruptions; and

WHEREAS, South Lake Tahoe City Council formally adopted a resolution to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2032; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Board is committed to making positive, tangible changes to mitigate climate change, and to ensure that every effort is made to conserve energy and natural resources while exercising sound financial management; and

WHEREAS, Lake Tahoe Unified School District students and staff are entitled to safe and healthy working and learning environments that reflect recommendations of reliable scientific studies indicating that student achievement and attendance and teacher and staff retention are improved when their environment incorporates natural light, improved indoor air quality and acoustics, and is free of toxins, thermally comfortable, and well maintained; and

WHEREAS, Lake Tahoe Unified School District embraces the tremendous opportunity to teach students about ecological sustainability, environmental health and nutrition; to meet math, science, and social studies standards by integrating environmental education; and to support students in becoming leaders as they make their own schools healthier and more ecologically friendly; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that energy efficiency and zero net energy with clean and renewable energy improvements in school district facilities and operations save school districts money, improve learning environments and the health and wellness of school district student and staff; and

WHEREAS, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) requires the State to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and beyond, and the energy used in buildings accounts for the second largest contribution to California's greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, B-30-15 Sets interim target of greenhouse gas emissions 40% less than 1990 levels by 2030

WHEREAS, the California Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan of 2008 requires all new commercial construction to be Zero Net Energy by 2030 and 50% of existing buildings to be Zero Net Energy by 2030; and California requires all buildings – new and existing will be Zero Net Energy with clean renewable energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, an Executive Order to achieve Carbon Neutrality of 2018 (B-55-18) requires the California to achieve statewide carbon neutrality by 2045 and maintain net negative emissions thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Lake Tahoe Unified School District recognizes that achieving environmental sustainability will require a commitment from all sectors of society, and that school districts are in a unique position to make substantial contributions toward the goal of a sustainable world for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Board also believes that responsible stewardship of public funds requires that new schools and district buildings be designed to provide the district with cost-saving, environmentally sustainable systems, flexible configurations that will enable future improvements, and efficient use of its land and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Board finds that it has a considerable opportunity through the District's purchasing power to improve the environment and to lower financial outlay by providing guidance for district expenditures on energy, mechanical equipment, construction materials, and other building construction and energy efficiency needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends that this document create a long-term, inspiring vision that integrates and strengthens many efforts in our district, and further recognizes that fully implementing this resolution will take time and must be achieved in stages that are to be measured each year.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District recognizes the deliberate progress already made by district and board staff to reduce the district's energy consumption and lessen its carbon footprint through its Renewable Energy and Sustainability Committee, Resolution for Climate Literacy, Resolution for Healthy and Sound Schools, and steps towards environmentally-responsible and resource-efficient construction practices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Board seeks to expand upon those effects and to create healthier, more environmentally sustainable schools, the Board hereby establishes the following goals:

1. to prioritizing student health, well-being and learning outcomes when making school facility decisions.
2. to identifying an energy champion who will support energy efficiency during each school construction project and additionally may support energy related curriculum.
3. the Lake Tahoe Unified School District commits to the energy and carbon emission reduction goals below for new and existing school construction projects. Adopting absolute energy goals ensures project teams have actionable and measurable goals to adhere to.

Project Level Goals:

- All new construction will be ZNE capable, all electric and have a site Energy Use Intensity (EUI) of 25 kBtu/square foot-year
- All major modernizations or deep energy retrofits will achieve a site EUI of 30 kBtu/square foot-year

Portfolio Goals:

- Reduce consumption by 50% below 2018 baseline by 2030

- Eliminate on-site fossil fuel combustion by 2045
- Achieve an average portfolio site EUI of 25 kBtu/square foot-year by 2045

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that with the help of New Buildings Institute and the California Getting to Zero in Schools Cohort, Lake Tahoe Unified will develop and adopt a series of guidance documents and standards to help guide the construction and decision-making process for building construction and upgrades to adhere to the goals above. These documents will be developed, adopted and finalized by March 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lake Tahoe Unified Board will report annually on the status of these goals in terms of EUI (kBtu/square foot-year) on new construction and retrofit projects, total % reduction as compared to baseline year of 2018, total annual emissions and % reduction as compared to 2018 baseline, and number of mechanical systems (such as HVAC) converted to from natural gas to electric at the end of their useful life.

The foregoing resolution is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of Education of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District at its regular public meeting held virtually on this 12th day of January 2021.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of January 12, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES: Larry Reilly, Bonnie Turnbull, Brandi Bannister, Lauri Kemper, Valerie Mansfield

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Board Clerk