

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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**Related Entries:** ECM, ECM-RA  
**Responsible Office:** Supportive Services

### Energy Conservation

#### A. PURPOSE

To ensure that Montgomery County Public Schools pursues energy conservation efforts and practices that continue to preserve our natural resources while providing a safe and comfortable learning environment for all staff and students

#### B. ISSUE

The nation is experiencing a depletion of its natural resources which include crude oil, natural gas, and other energy sources. The Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to reducing its consumption of natural resources and still improving the quality of its educational programs. The Montgomery County Board of Education desires to work with other agencies of government and plan school system activities so that the learning environment of essential education programs are not curtailed or compromised.

#### C. POSITION

1. The superintendent of schools shall continue to establish procedures to ensure the conservation of natural resources by personnel at all levels of the school system, which shall include the following practices:
  - a) Generation of a systemwide annual resource conservation plan that outlines goals and objectives
  - b) Development of acceptable energy conservation guidelines as outlined in the resource conservation plan
  - c) Continued development and implementation of conservation programs
  - d) Performance of energy studies on all new MCPS construction

- e) Monitoring the general operation and maintenance of all heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment
  - f) Procurement and consumption management of fossil fuels and electricity
  - g) Continuing reminders to staff and students of the need for conservation of all natural resources
2. MCPS will participate in a coordinated effort by government authorities to establish appropriate resource conservation plans and utility price monitoring systems to ensure that public schools have adequate supplies of essential fuels and can obtain these at the best possible prices.

**D. DESIRED OUTCOME**

Create a healthy and comfortable learning environment while controlling energy consumption more efficiently and diverting the otherwise rising utility costs towards educational programs. Continue development of energy conservation efforts that proportionally reduces energy consumption in new and existing facilities.

**E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

- 1. Should natural resources be insufficient to meet normal operating needs, the superintendent will develop further plans for the consideration of the Board of Education to conserve energy.
- 2. Copies of this policy and the annual resource conservation plan will be sent to appropriate school system and county government officials.

**F. REVIEW AND REPORTING**

This policy will be reviewed on an on-going basis in accordance with the Board of Education's policy review process.

*Policy History:* Adopted by Resolution No. 654-73, November 13, 1973; amended by Resolution No. 285-97, May 13, 1997; reviewed April 19, 2002.