

Green New Deal Presentation

Sustainability Committee Meeting ~ January 11th



Who are we?



The GND team is a group made up of environmentally aware Culver City High School students who aim to implement sustainable practices in the district!

Student members: Waylon Adzentoivich, Lila Bragard, Mimi Mirvish, Tatiana Murphy Wheeler, Nava Waisman

Advisors/supporters: Ms. Grasso (AP Environmental Science teacher), Jim Shanman (Walk n' Rollers), Sandrine Cassidy (Ballona Creek Renaissance), Bike Culver City

Our 9 pillars

1 EDUCATION

Every student should graduate with an appreciation for the Earth, an understanding of the climate crisis, and ways to combat it

1. Making sustainability and climate change education mandatory for teachers to incorporate into their curriculum (Subject To Climate and other resources)
2. Hosting a professional development day for teachers to learn why it is instrumental they teach sustainability and climate education
3. Integrate the California Coastal commission's **Environmental Justice in California and Beyond** unit into a graduation required class
4. Hosting a climate change awareness assembly once a year at all schools
5. Celebrating Earth Day (April 22) and America Recycles Day (November 15) every year with appropriate actions like campus wide cleanups

4 WASTE

Getting the district to zero-waste by 2030

1. Reorganizing the waste set-up with 3 streams (organics/recyclables/landfill)
 - I. 3-colored bins (green: composting/blue: recycling/black: landfill)
 - I. 3-colored liners for easy separation and disposal to avoid contamination
2. Working with **Terracycle, Recycle Right**, etc. to ensure that all plastic generated by the school is recycled by 2025
3. Requiring compost, landfill, and recycling in all shared dining areas.
4. Requiring recycling and landfill containers in all offices and classrooms (side by side)
5. Disposing of all hazardous and e-waste properly in proper collection sites.
 - I. Allocate location for disposal in each school.
6. Composting food scraps and perished food
7. Working with **Culver City EPO** for food recovery program (cafeteria)
8. Reducing paper use in offices
9. Downloading Culver City's Recycling Coach app and consult city's zero waste plan and tips

7 GREEN SPACES

Rethink outdoor spaces to maximize natural geochemical cycles and mental health

1. Removing all non-native plants, excluding grass in some key areas, and replace with native plants (**Green Schoolyards America**)
2. Using Integrated Pest Management systems and services
 - I. No pesticides on campus
3. Carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation
 - I. Such activities could include afforestation (conversion of non forested land to forest), reforestation (conversion of previously forested land to forest), improved forestry or agricultural practices, and revegetation.
 - II. Working with **Threespine** and other organizations to add trees in all our schools
4. Using city compost in all schools
5. Every school/campus should have an interactive garden
6. Adding more eco-friendly ocean gardens and bioswales

2 ENERGY

Reducing energy use and working towards Net Zero by 2030

1. Maintaining CCUSD on 100% renewable energy
 - I. All schools should be enrolled in 100% green energy, through the Clean Power Alliance (note: Elmda campus still on 36%, all others on 100%) by 2030
2. Committing to use and purchase **Energy Star-rated electronic equipment** (computers, copiers, refrigerators,...)
3. Adding solar panels, where possible
4. Making sure we are taking advantage of utility's rebates
5. Regularly maintaining all HVAC (including refrigerators) systems (at least twice a year)
6. Setting energy efficient seasonal temperature thermostats: recommended 76 cooling, 68 for heating
7. Turning off lights in classrooms, hallways, and offices outside of school hours.
8. Monitoring monthly energy use by school/site and analyzing discrepancies (use **Energy Star Portfolio Manager**)
9. Displaying conservation signage in appropriate locations
10. Making sure windows and doors are sealed properly and closed when HVAC is on
11. Recommending District websites use **green hosts**

5 GREEN PURCHASING

100% of materials purchased should be sustainable or sustainably sourced

1. Using, for example, **Green Cleaning Product list (2021, supplier hillary)**
2. Buying all paper products with 100% recycled content
3. Eliminating all purchase of plastic bags
4. All ink cartridges should be refillable/recyclable and recycled with a formal recycling program (each office should be checked)
5. Implementing a Meatless Monday Campaign in cafeteria
 - I. Reducing consumption of meat can help contain production of greenhouse gases that impact climate change. It can also help lessen the demand for precious environmental resources such as land, water, and energy.
6. Implementing **BP 3511** and Green Operations
7. Reviewing every purchase to make sure we are choosing most sustainable option
8. Negotiating with suppliers to match or reduce current costs for green products

8 COMMUNITY

Growing a cooperative community working towards local sustainable action

1. Ensuring that a representative from each committee affected by this Green New Deal attend the Environmental Sustainability Committee monthly meetings
 - I. The Sustainability Committee (or representative) should be involved in high level meetings and decisions relating to sustainability and the physical environment at CCUSD schools
2. Sustaining every year a full time position for a Sustainability Coordinator for the District, to lead the ESC, work with School staff for Green operations and support Schools Green Initiatives
3. Paying appropriate wages for janitors, gardeners, and all those responsible with the maintenance and cleanliness of the campuses
4. Ensuring communication and information about all things related to Sustainability for CCUSD (press release, school newsletters, social media, etc) is shared in a timely manner with the community
5. Using the skills, resources, organizations, and professionals already in our community to enact this CCUSD Green New Deal

3 WATER

Reducing potable water use as much as possible

1. Adopting a "No-leak Policy"
2. Monitoring monthly water use per school/site and analyze discrepancies
3. Ensuring regular plumbing maintenance on school plumbing
4. Adding drip irrigation for school vegetation or implementing night watering to prevent evaporation
5. Displaying conservation signage in appropriate locations
6. Using recycled water for landscaping
7. Studying a water runoff capture system for each school
8. Adding rain barrels on gutters

6 CONSTRUCTION

Planning and building any new project, as well as upgrading and modernizing existing projects with sustainability in mind

1. Following **LEED Green building standards** for new constructions and remodeling
2. Laying new concrete with pervious concrete if outside
3. Following **Title 24** construction
4. Choosing materials/equipment from recycled content
5. Disposing of materials sustainably

9 TRANSPORTATION

Providing transportation so that 80% of students could walk, bike, or take public transport to school

1. Creating more bike, skateboard, and scooter parking areas for middle and high school
2. Making the **Free-Fare** Transportation Program permanent (currently in pilot year)
3. Promoting walking, biking, skating in line with Walk/Bike Programs
4. Adding EV charging stations, where possible
5. Ensuring all school vehicles purchased hereafter should be electric or hybrid

All of our recommendations are instrumental to the sustainability of the schools and are supported by students, faculty, staff, and Culver City community members. We need a plan to realize our recommendations, because their implementation is essential. The school district should invest in infrastructural changes, by creating new positions and hiring qualified people into these positions, in order to help execute an equitable and efficient transition to sustainable campuses. Sustainability efforts should be a point of consideration in all faculty's evaluations.

CCUSD
GREEN
NEW
DEAL



History

- The GND document was drafted by a group of students in 2021 who felt that CCUSD was in need of more robust environmental policy
- They modeled the district proposal off of federal GND proposal [linked here](#)
- **2021-2022:** Earth day event with the superintendent at the Wende Museum (top right) & grass replacement rebate with West Basin
- **2022-2023:** Resolution passed by the district [here](#) committing CCUSD to implementing up to date environmental policy & continued work on grass replacement
- **2023-2024:** Transportation resolution passed by the board [here](#) committing CCUSD to support green transportation efforts & sustainability event
- We also attended the West LA College Climate Palooza where we had a booth informing the community of our proposal and two of our members spoke on a panel alongside other climate justice activists!



climate action palooza
AT WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

save the dates

Tue., Oct 24:
Climate Action,
Environmental Justice &
Youth Activism

Wed., Oct 25:
Climate Hackathon

Thu., Oct 26:
Green & Blue Jobs Conference

*art, talks,
games, food,
swapmeet*

All events are free and open to the public
Registrations will begin on August 15
Questions? Contact us at CAClimateCenter@wlaac.edu

What are we doing now?

Transportation

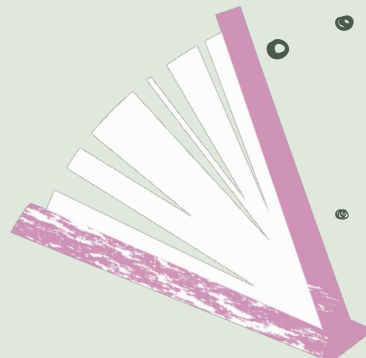
In an effort to reach the goal outlined in our resolution of “Providing transportation so that 80% of students could walk, bike, or take public transport to school”, we are currently working on 3 projects related to transportation (outlined on the next slide).

Earth Day Event - led by Nava & Mimi

We plan to create a local Earth Day event involving CCHS environmental clubs and community members. We will have activities for kids, information about local environmentalism, and overall, spread awareness about our mission!

New members - led by Mimi & Waylon

We will be collecting applications and interviewing underclassmen at CCHS to be a part of the 2024-2025 GND team!



Transportation - led by Lila

1. Bike & pedestrian infrastructure improvements near the elenda campus

We created an infrastructure improvement plan surrounding the Elenda Campus. We presented to BPAC, MTP, and the School Board (which passed a resolution in support). The city public works department has said it would submit a funding request for a study for the next budget. We would love to move it up to the midyear budget.

2. Bike racks

We designed a bike rack expansion plan for CCHS to address the overflow of bikes in the current parking and inequitable distribution of parking location across campus, in cooperation with our principal Dr. Thomas. The city has provided the district with 30-40 new U-Racks to be installed according to our plan as soon as the CCHS MOT can pick them up.

3. Expanding student transit

As part of a celebration on National Walk to School Day we wanted to promote the free student TAP card program. We had lots of students asking us for cards and taking transit more often, but we were unable to meet the demand as we were provided with less than 30 cards. We created a sign up sheet and began to pass the cards out as the office was re-supplied but were met with some resistance and stopped by the city representative in charge of the cards.

Plans for the Future

Green Education

- The AP Environmental Science teachers have been producing the curriculum for an Environmental Justice Course! This would offer all students an opportunity to learn about sustainability and how that relates to socio economic justice without having to take an advanced placement course.

Grass Replacement Rebate

- There is a grass patch in CCHS that we want to replace with native plants which has already been measured and consulted about with district employees. We plan to reconnect with West Basin to make this possible! If this succeeds, we plan to expand it to other CCUSD schools.



Any questions?

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