

Instruction

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the schools play a crucial role in educating students about the importance of the environment and in preparing them to be stewards of natural resources. The Board believes that students should value the environment, respect all life forms, understand the basic ecological principles which support the planet, and live an ecologically responsible life-style.

The Board desires to offer environmental education that fosters attitudes of personal responsibility toward the environment and provides students with the concepts, knowledge and skills needed to contribute meaningfully to decisions involving the environment and its resources. At all grade levels, environmental facts should be taught as they relate to each other, so that students will understand basic ecological principles and appreciate the interrelated nature of living processes, the effect of human activities on ecological relationships, and the interdependence of humanity and nature.

The Board encourages school and classroom activities that encourage students to recycle, conserve water and energy, use biodegradable materials when possible, and dispose of wastes in an environmentally sound way.

(cf. 6000 – Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8700-8707 Environmental education

8720-8723 Conservation education service

8760-8773 Outdoor science, conservation, and forestry

33541 Science requirements

37222 John Muir; recognition of his contributions

51210 Areas of study, grades 1-6

51220 Areas of study, grades 7-12

51795-51797 School instructional gardens

60041 Ecological systems and their protection

PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

71300-71305 Statewide environmental education

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (continued)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Environmental Protection Agency, Education and the Environment Initiative:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Education/EEI>

California Department of Education, Environmental Education:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/oeaintrod.asp>

California Integrated Waste Management Board, School Waste Management Education and Assistance: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Schools>

California Regional Environmental Education Community: <http://www.creec.org>

(9/90 6/92)

7/22/92

7/07

12/12/07