

Odyssey Charter School, Inc. Waste Reduction Policy

The Governing Board believes that the conservation of natural resources and the protection of the environment are connected to the schools' educational mission and are essential to the health and well-being of the school community. The Odyssey Charter School, Inc. Wellness Committee shall develop and/or implement a cost-effective, integrated waste management program that incorporates the principles of "green school" operations that include efficient use of resources and sustainable community practices.

The [Odyssey Charter School, Inc. Waste Management Program](#) shall include strategies designed to help schools reduce solid and hazardous waste generation, improve efficiency in their use of natural resources, and minimize the impact of such use on the environment. The program shall address all areas of the schools' operations, including, but not limited to, procurement, resource utilization, and facilities management practices.

The Wellness Committee may collaborate with city, county, and state agencies and other public or private agencies in developing and implementing the school's integrated waste management program.

The Wellness Committee shall make every effort to identify funding opportunities for the schools' integrated waste management program including applying for available grants or other cost-reduction incentives.

To the extent that funding permits, the Wellness Committee shall provide appropriate educational and training opportunities to students and staff regarding the benefits and methods of conserving natural resources and protecting the environment.

The Wellness Committee shall monitor the schools' integrated waste management program and shall provide an update to the Board on its effectiveness, as necessary.

For all applicable areas of the schools' operations, the Wellness Committee shall design an integrated waste management program that minimizes the generation of waste, encourages the recovery and diversion of reusable materials from the waste stream, improves efficiency in the utilization of natural and material resources, and protects the environment. The program shall implement measures and/or practices to:

- 1) Reduce the consumption of disposable materials, increase the composting of organic materials, and fully utilize all materials prior to disposal;
- 2) Recycle materials such as paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum;

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- 3) Consider the use of recycled and other environmentally preferable products when procuring materials for use in the schools as cost permits;
- 4) Work with city, county, or other government agencies to ensure the collection of reusable and recyclable materials generated by the schools; and
- 5) Minimize the use of nonbiodegradable materials and work with vendors and contractors to use packaging and delivery materials that generate less waste.

References

CSBA Sample Board Policy, Business and Noninstructional Operations, Integrated Waste Management by The California School Board Association and CalRecycle