

Guiding Principles

LEVERAGE EDUCATION

Activities will support and enrich our students' education

FOLLOW AND SUPPORT OUR PEOPLE

Actions will be guided by student and educator needs and interests

MAKE OUR EFFORTS LASTING

Efforts will endeavour to create lasting impact through infrastructure changes and program development



VSB Vancouver School Board

Environmental Sustainability Plan

A “sustainable school district” must provide positive exposure to the natural world – not only environmental crises. A positive connection to nature is a seed from which will grow empathy and understanding, leading to deeper engagement and action. Our most significant opportunity as educators is to develop conscientious citizens.



WE WILL GET THERE, **TOGETHER.**

LET'S BE THE **GREENEST** SCHOOL DISTRICT.

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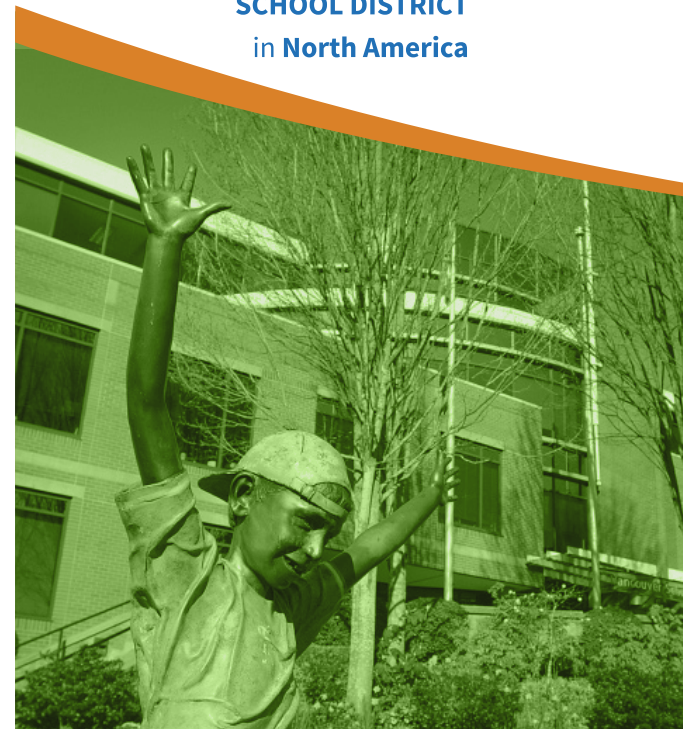


OUR VISION TO BE the **GREENEST**, most **SUSTAINABLE** SCHOOL DISTRICT in **North America**



If we want children to flourish, we need to give them time to connect with nature and love the Earth before we ask them to save it.

– David Sobel, “Beyond Ecophobia”



EDUCATION

connect to nature and to each other to be better environmental citizens

GOALS

Foster a connection to the natural world

Support learning initiatives that develop environmentally conscientious citizens

ACTIONS

Support nature-focused learning

Develop professional development and other resource materials

Support networks and relationships between educators

Make our facility activities learning opportunities

Support student networks for dialogue and sharing

GREEN SPACES

enhance our outdoor spaces for learning

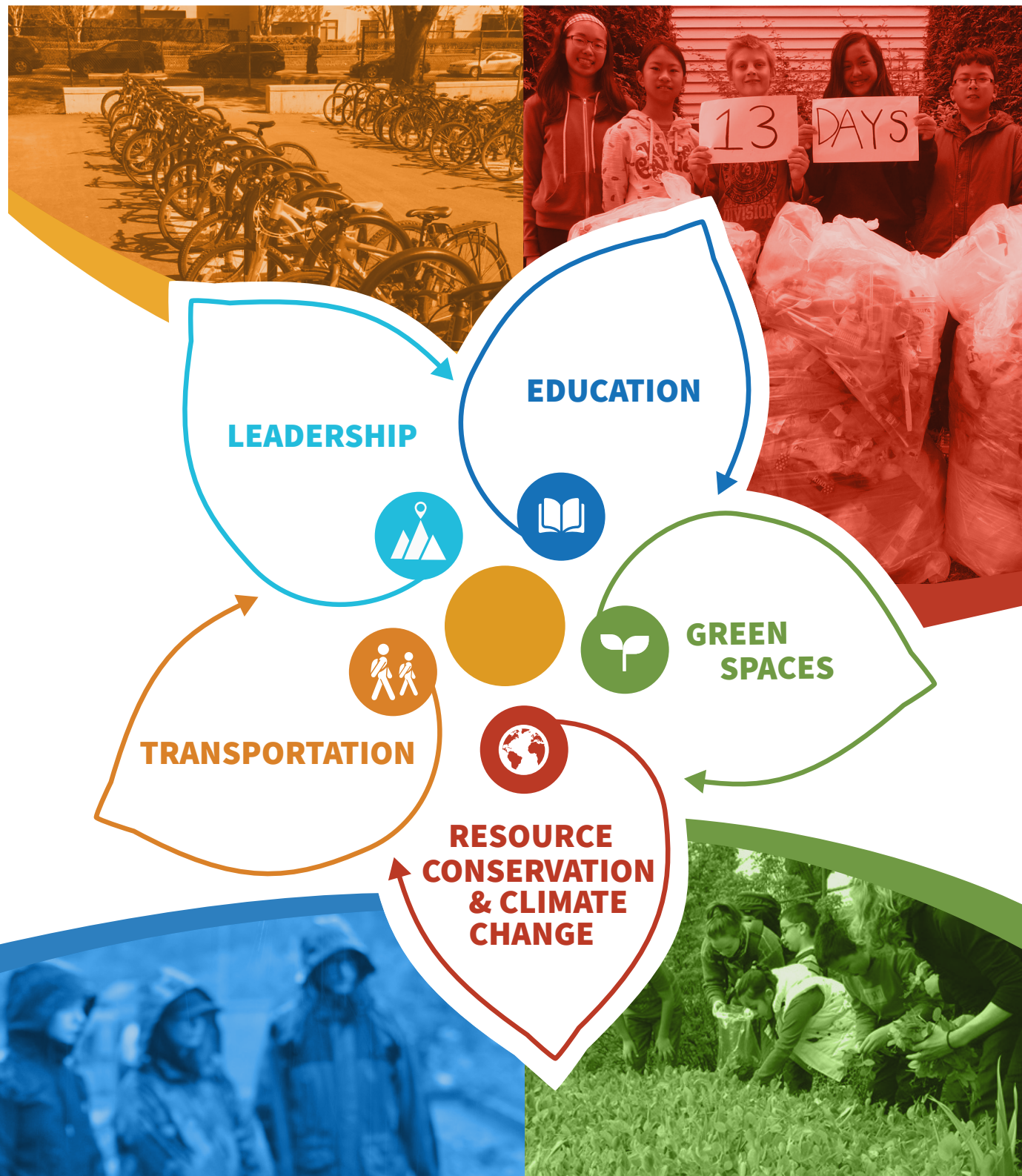
GOALS

Support outdoor-focused spaces and activities at school sites

ACTIONS

Develop guidelines for new types of infrastructure

Engage community partner groups and First Nations to enhance outdoor learning activities



RESOURCE CONSERVATION & CLIMATE CHANGE

use less and shrink our footprint

GOALS

Reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions

Reduce consumption of resources and waste generation

ACTIONS

Maintain an active energy management program

Develop a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Implement long-term resource conservation initiatives

Support school-level conservation projects

Develop VSB-relevant resources and guides for schools

TRANSPORTATION

make active transportation easier

GOALS

Support active transportation choices for school communities

Support low-carbon transportation

ACTIONS

Promote active transportation events and training

Improve infrastructure for cycling, wheeling, and walking

Promote low-carbon transportation within the VSB

LEADERSHIP

share our work and build relationships

GOALS

Lead by example

ACTIONS

Continuously improve and update policies and practices

Report on progress