

2024 PSO CLIMATE CHANGE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

SCHOOL DISTRICT 22 (VERNON)



DECLARATION STATEMENT

This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2024 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2025 and beyond.

ACTIONS TAKEN TO MINIMIZE EMISSIONS

BUILDINGS

Actions taken to minimize emissions within our buildings include:

School	Heat pump	LED lighting	Low flow water fixtures	Upgraded DDC	Enhanced R-value
Charles Bloom Secondary	Air	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cherryville Elementary	Air		Y	Y	
JW Inglis Elementary		Y	Y	Y	
Clarence Fulton Secondary			Y		
Mission Hill Elementary		Y	Y	Y	
Okanagan Landing Elementary	Geothermal	Y	Y	Y	
Ellison Elementary	Geothermal	Y	Y	Y	
Kalamalka Secondary		Y	Y	Y	
Coldstream Elementary	Geothermal		Y	Y	
Kidston Elementary		Y	Y	Y	
Lavington Elementary	Geothermal	Y	Y	Y	Y
WL Seaton Secondary			Y		
Alexis Park Elementary	Air	Y	Y	Y	
Harwood Elementary			Y	Y	
Beairsto Elementary		Y	Y	Y	
Vernon Secondary School	Geothermal		Y	Y	
BX Elementary	Air	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hillview Elementary		Y	Y	Y	
Silver Star Elementary			Y	Y	
Alternate Learning Program	Air	Y	Y	Y	
Board office	Geothermal	Y	Y	Y	

VEHICLE FLEET

Actions taken to minimize emissions from our vehicle fleet include:

- Downsizing our trades fleet to right-size the vehicles for fuel efficiency and ensuring ride sharing to work sites.
- Operating eleven (one-third of our fleet) electric school buses.

PAPER CONSUMPTION

The School District continues to use PaperCut software to track and report paper consumption. This provides environmental information on the impact of paper consumed through our photocopiers and printers. Action is taken where excessive consumption is noted.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Schools continue to take action to reduce their carbon footprint. Activities reported last year are ongoing and include the following.

ALEXIS PARK ELEMENTARY

Recycle programs (paper, cardboard, plastics, and 'return it' containers), school garden, compost program, lunch program scraps to chickens, school and community litter clean-ups, staff bike to work challenge/team, reusable bottle filling stations (2), engaging walking field trip options, environmental learning opportunities in classrooms and on the land, paperless newsletters and home communication, school lighting upgrades (dimmer switches and LED lighting), compostable bowls and cutler in our meal programs,

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAM

We recycle paper, cardboard, plastics, bottles/cans and we have a school garden.

BEAIRSTO ELEMENTARY

Recycle paper, cardboard, plastics, school garden, compost paper towel and all food, community litter clean-ups, salmonid programme (not this year due to problems with the salmon), bike to work week, reusable bottle filling stations, hydroponic gardens, walking as much as possible - tree planting and planning.

BX ELEMENTARY

Recycle programs (paper, cardboard, plastics, and 'return it' containers), school garden, community litter clean-ups, reusable bottle filling stations (3), engaging walking field trip options, education in classrooms.

CHARLES BLOOM SECONDARY

We recycle all drink containers, plastic bags, cardboard, tin cans, organic waste composting in cafeteria and foods room. We do paper recycling in all the classrooms. Our Summit Program works with the Village of Lumby to get the community gardens ready for people and plant their own garden which is then used in the Fall to make lunches for kids.

CHERRYVILLE ELEMENTARY

Recycle program (juice boxes, paper, cardboard, etc.). PAC uses compostable containers for hot lunch. School garden and hoping to start composting for garden in the spring. Students help clean up garbage at the community park. Water filling station.

CLARENCE FULTON SECONDARY

Recycling paper in all areas of school; real dishes for our breakfast program that our cafeteria students clean; Our Summit Program students recycle all the pop cans in our school; Compost program in effect with green bins throughout the school. Two classes are working as compost Champions. Ducks Unlimited Wetland Center of Excellence students maintain and clean the wetlands. Several classes participate in the CARE and bring a variety of Carbon Neutral actions to the school each year. Garden planted in the courtyard. Indigenous plants being added to periphery of wetlands. Bike to work programs promoted several times per year. Fulton is slated for the LED lighting upgrade later this year or early next year.

COLDSTREAM ELEMENTARY

Composting as much as possible (all paper towel used in school each day, all compostable foods, cardboard and other materials, etc.); recycling of all recyclable materials; plants in some classrooms; spring gardening; we ask students to avoid bringing to school or to take home any materials that we don't currently have a recycling program in place for (ex. juice boxes); encourage bringing litter-free lunches; approx. 30% of our school that rides bikes/scooters to school as often as possible; regular neighbourhood and beach clean-ups; approx. 30% students ride the school bus (avoid single-user vehicles); paperless communication of student learning as much as possible; paperless newsletters, information, attendance, etc.; paperless lesson planning and instruction often.

CROSSROADS LEARNING CENTRE

We recycle paper, cardboard, plastics, bottles/cans. We are applying for a school garden grant. Organic waste goes to chickens.

ELLISON ELEMENTARY

We use our compost bins to divert as much garbage as possible from the landfill. We recycle plastics, drink containers and cardboard/paper. We have a class that helps to lead by running our recycling program.

HARWOOD ELEMENTARY

We recycle paper, cardboard and plastics. Each classroom composts and one of our classes then picks up and takes everyone's out each week. In our HUB, we have two grow towers to not just use fresh fruit and vegetables but teach our students about healthy, sustainable eating. Our food coordinators use compostable or reusable dishes and cutlery. Our third water bottle fill station is being built. We purchased 20 bikes and teach biking classes and promote exercise. We regularly have students, whole classes or school outside cleanup. We also participate in the Salmon Education Program that raises salmon and releases them into natural habitats in the spring.

J. W. INGLIS ELEMENTARY

We recycle paper, cardboard and plastic in a container that gets picked up weekly. The Grade 6 leadership students collect juice containers, plastic bottles and cans for recycling and brings them to the local recycle depot for cash! Biodegradable waste is collected in classroom containers for either the black compost container in the courtyard or the worm composting bin in either their classroom or in the office. Worm castings and compost from the container in the courtyard, go into the garden containers. Seeds have been started and will go into the garden bins. Shredded paper also goes into the worm bins. April 22 (Earth Day) assembly will be focused on all we recycle, reuse, and reduce... banana peels come back as tomatoes! The lights have been upgraded throughout the school as well. We are no longer handing out plastic utensils to students who forget to pack them. Each classroom has metal (washable) utensils to borrow.

KALAMALKA SECONDARY

We have increased our composting program by adding more bins in the classrooms and the hallway. We have a teacher and their students assigned each week to take the composting out twice per week. We have promoted recycling of paper products and beverage containers to reinforce care for the environment. Our concession uses compostable plates, cups, and straws. We have had our students participate in the climate action plan. We also have several teachers and students who work on our garden. Our school takes advantage of walking field trips to local parks.

KIDSTON ELEMENTARY

Compost program (school wide), school garden, grow tower, recycling program (paper, plastic, cardboard, bottles, juice boxes, and cans), hot lunch only served with compostable or recyclable materials, plastic-free Valentine's Day, two water filling stations, Salmon release program, walking

field trips to Kal park, Sovereign park, and Fylton forest. We encourage families and students to bike and walk to school. This year our school has had lighting upgrades (dimmer switches and LED lighting).

LAVINGTON ELEMENTARY

Compost, School Garden, Water filling stations, recycling (paper, plastic, cardboard, milk containers, all 'lunch moms' containers), Dimmer switches (all L.E.D lights) Geothermal System, walking field trips, Salmon Release Project, plastic-free Valentines, walking and riding to School, PAC uses compostable cutlery, Grow Tower is functioning, Bike to Work week, outdoor learning area is in progress, Climate Change and sustainability poster contest winners, staff carpool, Climate Change Teacher Residency, Leadership students: Sun/Skin Cancer Awareness training (all classes), butterfly release project.

MISSION HILL

We recycle paper, plastics, and refundable containers. We have one water filling stations. We walk to local attractions instead of taking a bus whenever possible. We have started to compost food items and paper towel in some classrooms. We have 2 grow towers that are producing food. All our lights have been upgraded in the school to low energy. We encourage many of our families to walk or bike to school and we are working with the city to improve pedestrian safety. Students and staff participate in many school ground and community clean ups throughout the year.

OKANAGAN LANDING ELEMENTARY

OKL has an active composting and recycling program run by students and other staff members. Juice boxes and bottles are cleaned, collected, and sorted by students. Compost is picked up from classrooms weekly by students and taken to our compost bins in the garden. Grade groups take turns being in charge of playground clean-up. We have started our initiative to be wrapper free outside to reduce garbage found on our school grounds. In addition, we have a school garden that is utilized by classrooms to grow food and to promote pollination within the area of our school community. Also, all of our classrooms have LED lighting with dimmer switches in conjunction with a Geothermal system. We also participate in the Salmon Education Program that raises salmon and release them into natural habitats in the spring.

SILVER STAR ELEMENTARY

We recycle paper, cardboard, bottles, juice boxes and cans. We have started our composting program this year. We have a community garden plot that we walk to. There is 2+ classes that take care of the garden. We have a water filling station. We work on liter free lunches especially in all primary classes. The majority of our students walk/ride/scooter to school. Regular classes take care of our school yard clean up each week. Many if not all do outdoor walking/biking fieldtrips to downtown and

around Vernon. As much as possible communication is paperless. LED lights and dimmer switches in office.

VERNON SECONDARY

We have a recycling program in our school which has containers in classrooms as well as in hallways. Our basement has a sorting area for recycling. Our social justice class often takes on initiatives each semester. We have a composter in our cafeteria area for organic materials and many of the containers are compostable that are used to serve food. Compositing throughout our school continues, we have approximately 20 compost containers in our school and our classes take turns emptying them. Several staff make use of the bike lock up in the basement, and many of our staff walk to work. We run a Sustainable Futures class that supports environmental initiatives throughout the community. Vocations class participates in community cleanup efforts. Beginning in 2025 2026 we will be encouraging more senior students to walk rather than drive to school.

W. L. SEATON SECONDARY

Recycling program (for paper and plastics, but the Rotary Club also has recycling bins for drink containers that they take care of for fundraising), classroom compost bins and school wide compost. Cafeteria uses compostables. Classes involved in climate action summit. New LED lighting in classrooms and many of the hallways. This is ongoing.

VLEARN

vLearn collaborates with our host school, Clarence Fulton, to utilize recycling programs and composting initiatives. Additionally, we have a grow tower that demonstrates the significance of growing our own food to promote environmental sustainability. vLearn middle year students, along with Earthquest students, volunteer at the North Okanagan Valley Gleaners to understand the extent of local food waste and how gleaning can help feed the hungry. Furthermore, vLearn students actively participate in an annual Community Cleanup, contributing to the upkeep of the local neighborhood and wetlands.

PLANS TO CONTINUE REDUCING EMISSIONS

BUILDINGS

The School District continues to upgrade lighting, HVAC units and controls for efficiency and is seeking to install further geothermal systems where feasible.

VEHICLE FLEET

Where funding is not available for electric busses, or operational reasons make electric busses impractical, the School District replaces older buses with propane busses. These have a lower carbon footprint than traditional gasoline busses.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The School District continues to raise awareness of environmental matters at the school level. For example, a Youth Climate Action Summit is held every year. This is creating an environmental awareness among our students and teaching them the skills they need to lessen their impact on the environment. Our students are tomorrow's leaders, and so this education is fundamental to future environmental success.

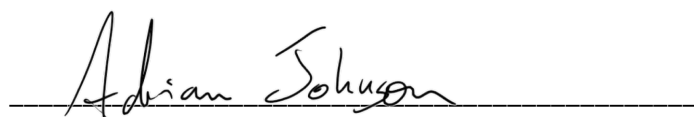
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND OFFSETS FOR 2024

Greenhouse Gas emissions for the period January 1 to December 31, 2024	
Total BioCO ₂	24
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	2,336
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	1,898
Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO ₂ e)	0
Grand Total Offsets for the 2024 Reporting Year	
Grand Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e) to be Retired for 2024 Reporting Year	1,898
Offset Investment (\$25 per tCO ₂ e)	\$47,450

RETIREMENT OF OFFSETS

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, The Board of Education of School District 22 (Vernon) (the Organization) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2024 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years (if applicable). The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Environment and Climate Solutions (the Ministry) ensuring that these offsets are retired on the Organization's behalf, the Organization will pay within 30 days, the associated invoice to be issued by the Ministry in an amount equal to \$25 per tonne of offsets retired on its behalf plus GST.

EXECUTIVE SIGN-OFF:



Adrian Johnson, Secretary Treasurer, May 8, 2025