



Cambridge Public Schools

Office for Sustainability, Facilities Department

Annual Sustainability Report: 2017

Report for the Building & Grounds Committee

March 2017

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I. ENERGY

A. Energy-Savings Projects Overview

The school district's Office for Sustainability in the Facilities Department, has worked in partnership with the Department of Public Works, the DOER Green Communities Grant Program, Eversource, and Prism Energy to implement efficiency projects that reduce usage and save money. These projects have been successfully completed over the past six and half years, and continue to be developed by the Sustainability Manager and Facilities Department, based on analysis of overall district energy usage that is tracked by both the Sustainability Manager and the Department of Public Works.

The focus has been on implementing energy efficiency activities by means of lighting retrofits and HVAC upgrades, converting oil boilers to gas boilers, and studying the feasibility of renewable energy, and applying solar panel systems in applicable building design projects, such as the CRLS renovation and the new King School on Putnam Avenue.

Lighting upgrades have consisted primarily of the installation of high efficiency lamps, ballasts and occupancy sensors by means of retrofitting existing lighting fixtures, with a recent focus on using LED lights. HVAC projects have related to the installation and upgrade of heating and cooling mechanisms and DDC (direct digital control) systems that allow for more control over systems being turned on/off, and temperature control, thus enabling greater energy savings.

Since FY 2009, the City has invested more than \$1 million in lighting retrofit projects, boiler replacements, HVAC upgrades, and digital energy management systems, known as Direct Digital Control (DDC), which have reduced the amount of electricity, natural gas and fuel oil that school buildings consume. City funds of \$315K and grant and rebate/incentives of \$760K supported these projects. The City estimates an annual savings of approximately \$200K as a result of these projects. Energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades that we have completed at numerous school buildings over the past decade have provided our district with significant savings and reduction.

B. Energy Projects By Year

Over the past 6 and a half years we have implemented the following energy efficiency and sustainable building projects:

Winter 2017: Sustainability Manager and DPW working on scope of services proposal for lighting retrofit of Fletcher Maynard Academy hallways and classrooms; LED lighting with occupancy sensors. Kennedy-Longfellow PV Study in partnership with DPW/ARUP in development.

Fall 2016: Lighting retrofit to Cambridgeport Gym completed; LED lighting with occupancy sensors.



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Fall 2016: Lighting retrofit to Fletcher-Maynard Gym completed; LED lighting with occupancy sensors.

2016 Year: Design and construction of new King Open School on Cambridge Street began, including state of the art design and sustainability features and inclusion of Administration building staff/departments, moving over from Thorndike Street. Sustainability Manager continued to track all energy use across school department buildings; energy data in Mass. Energy Insight software (MEI) regularly reviewed and processed for prioritization of energy projects. Martin Luther King School (MLK) successfully implemented net zero design principles and process to achieve a low energy use intensity and to incorporate almost 600 kw of solar PV.

Spring/Summer 2016: Installed new LED lighting in War Memorial Basketball Gym (2nd Floor of building).

Spring 2016: All elementary schools completed in the Go Green Challenge. Highest percent participation of all school homerooms in program's history.

April 2016: Worked in collaboration with Prism Energy and Fletcher Maynard Academy to develop a template for all future lighting upgrades at schools. This report details ideal lighting scenarios for various components of a school building, including hallways, classrooms, & gyms.

June 2015: Cambridge Public School District is awarded the 2015 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools District Sustainability Award in Washington, D.C., presented by U.S. Secretary of State Arne Duncan and Managing Director of the White House Council on Environmental Quality Christy Goldfuss.

Spring 2015: All elementary and upper schools completed the Go Green Challenge.

December 2015: Students and staff were successfully moved into the fully re-designed and built Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School and Putnam Avenue Upper School, located in the same building on Putnam Ave. The Martin Luther King Jr. School has been designed to achieve LEED Platinum certification, and includes a series of 65 geothermal wells, an automatic lighting dimmer system and gray water storage. The 169,000-square-foot school targets Net Zero energy consumption, and will serve an estimated 740 students. The school includes a CitySprouts garden, outdoor hard and softscape areas, a preschool playground, teacher's patio and a courtyard garden featuring an indoor/outdoor performance space. plethora of sustainable features, materials and systems that have put the school on target to achieve Net Zero energy. The building is projected to have an Energy Use Intensity 60 percent less than typical educational buildings in New England and will save energy through proper orientation, pervasive natural light in almost every space and high-performance roof and wall assemblies. The school will also offset energy demands through the use of photovoltaic panels mounted on the roof and south-facing facades. It will also feature full-scale composting and recycling program, like all other schools within the Cambridge Public School District.



October 2015: We replaced the boiler at Graham & Parks from oil to natural gas.

Fall 2015: We switched out auditorium stage lighting from incandescent bulbs to LEDs in the Kennedy-Longfellow School, King Open School, Graham & Parks School, and Morse School. This was done in-house with our electricians, and the light-bulbs were obtained for free through a state Mass-Save distribution program.

August 2015: We completed the lighting retrofit at the garage at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

Spring 2014: All elementary and upper schools completed the Go Green Challenge.

December 2014: We completed a DDC upgrade at Haggerty School.

August 2014: We completed a lighting retrofit at Baldwin School.

July 2014: We completed an HVAC upgrade and building envelope improvements at the Baldwin School.

2013 Year: Cambridge Rindge & Latin High School receives LEED Gold certification for renovations that took place from 2008-2012. CRLS was one of only a handful of renovation projects to achieve LEED Gold. The sustainability improvements include a chilled beam HVAC system—well-suited to incorporation in existing concrete frame buildings—and a rooftop photovoltaic array. These retrofits, coupled with high-efficiency lighting that maximizes daylight, contribute to the school’s net energy savings. Additional teaching tools are in place, like monitors in the lobby displaying real-time energy data from the solar array, and a small rooftop garden tie environmental stewardship to the curriculum and provide educational opportunities. Other visible sustainability features include low-flow fixtures that provide an annual savings of 1.3 million gallons of water, operable windows, and many bike racks use daily by students. Beneath the playground for the school’s onsite daycare center, a rainwater collection tank stores runoff from the roof and is used to irrigate the landscaping, eliminating potable water use.

September 2013: We renovated the roof of the Solomon Garage with an eco-friendly design; this is the building where the Facilities Department, RSTA garage, and media center are located. This roof has been designed with environmentally-friendly features. It now meets the requirements of the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code, has excellent insulation, and is a white roof, reflecting sunlight so as to create a cooling effect during hotter months.

Spring 2013: All elementary and upper schools completed the Go Green Challenge.



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March 2013: We completed a DDC Upgrade at the Haggerty School, which included boilers, RTUs, and unit ventilators. We completed a DDC Upgrade at the Peabody School, which included controls, motors, and drives.

January 2013 - January 2014: We initiated a project for the first year of Retuning the War Memorial, which included a thorough and full-scale study of how efficiently the building operates and by what mechanisms, and how the system mechanics could be improved.

February 2012: We commissioned a new HVAC system at the Longfellow School Building, allowing for more efficient cooling, heating, and air quality measures and energy savings.

January 2012: We installed district-wide Direct Digital Controls (DDC) system connecting back to our central base at the War Memorial Building, including the following nine schools: Baldwin School, Cambridgeport School, Graham & Parks School, Kennedy-Longfellow School, King-Amigos School, King Open School, Morse School, Peabody School, and Tobin School.

September 2011: We completed the programming of the Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School PV System, which is now live and in action. We have set it up so that the daily energy tracking and savings can be viewed by students and staff of CRLS online, and used as an educational resource.

September 2011: We installed high-efficiency lighting and occupancy sensors at the Morse School, Solomon Garage, and High School Field House. As in the lighting upgrades we did in February 2011, the new lights use 20%-50% less electricity than the old ones, and occupancy sensors, installed where appropriate, add to the savings by turning off lights when rooms are vacant.

July 2011: We installed Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) at the Haggerty School. This is an aspect of the digital controls system that allows for a centralized and more efficient means of digitally controlling HVAC systems for a tighter control over temperature and timing of energy systems.

February 2011: We installed high-efficiency lighting and occupancy sensors at the Peabody School, Kennedy-Longfellow School, Baldwin School, and Haggerty School. The new lights use 20%-50% less electricity than the old ones, and occupancy sensors, installed where appropriate, add to the savings by turning off lights when rooms are vacant. Rooms are brighter too, due both to the color of the new lamps and because output from old bulbs decreases over the years.

2010: War Memorial Recreation Facility receives LEED Silver certification. The Cambridge War Memorial Recreation Center achieved LEED-Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). It verified by the Green Building Certification Institute for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. The building is 78,000 square feet and is home to three pools, a gymnasium with basketball and volleyball courts, a state-of-the-art fitness room, a multipurpose room and

separate locker room facilities for school and public use. Unique green features include daylighting, vibrant tile work, and wave-patterned terrazzo flooring that adds visual appeal, durability, and sustainability to the facility. In addition, environmental design and construction includes: water-saving shower heads, toilets and urinals that results in 41.5% of water savings; 18.5% energy savings achieved through day light dimming, efficient boilers and variable frequency drive motors; reduction of urban heat island effect and energy costs with use of white roof; and diversion of more than 88% of construction waste from landfills to be recycled or reused.

2010: Russell Field House receives LEED certification. Environmental materials and systems include recycled materials, high levels of insulation, a high efficiency heating system, and materials with low embedded energy costs. This building is also green because it has incorporated energy efficient design, water use reduction, sustainable site selection and development, responsible materials selection and waste management, and enhanced indoor environmental quality.

November 2010: We installed a high-efficiency condensing boiler at the Longfellow School Building. The new boiler replaced inefficient and failing equipment, and was conversion from oil to natural gas. In addition, we installed a DDC (direct digital control system) that allows for a centralized and more efficient means of digitally controlling HVAC systems for a tighter control over temperature and timing of energy systems. This in turn saves energy by reducing inefficiency.

II. WASTE

A. Waste Disposal Overview

The Cambridge Public School District continues its commitment to reducing the volume of waste generated, reusing and upcycling products that do not need to be thrown away, and recycling waste daily in all classrooms and offices across the district. We have expanded composting to all schools now in partnership with DPW –a huge achievement.

Our composting program is called “Food to Flowers,” and, along with recycling, is carried out in partnership with our Department of Public Works staff. Our head custodians track the amount of waste that is both recycled and composted at our schools, and we have a comprehensive tracking program in place where we measure these amounts and publish them to our community every month.

We also reduce the volume of waste we generate by educating students and staff through e-mails to staff, a monthly newsletter, and our website, providing resources on ways to minimize wastefulness, for example, by printing double-sided to save paper. Our monthly e-newsletter is full of waste-saving tips and resources. We are focused on minimizing trash waste at high-frequency times such as the end of the school year when teachers are cleaning out classrooms. Through weekly sustainability e-news and via our website we are providing resources on ways to

minimize wastefulness by offering tips, tools, and resources on how to minimize trash production and use recycling and donation options.

B. Recycling

Recycling Program Overview

All of our schools currently have single-stream recycling in place, and in partnership with the Department of Public Works, a contractor picks up our recyclables each week. The single-stream recycling program allows many different types of materials to go into one collection bin. Materials that fall under the single-stream recycling collection criteria include: empty aerosol cans, aluminum cans/trays/foil, glass bottles & jars, metal cans, milk cartons & juice boxes, large plastics (buckets, laundry baskets, toys), spiral cans (potato chips/nuts), books (rip off hard covers), cardboard boxes, paper coffee cups, frozen food boxes, cereal boxes, paper towel rolls, phone books, junk mail, empty pizza boxes, newspapers, magazines & catalogs, shredded paper, white & colored paper, and wrapping paper. The process is very simple and straightforward because people can recycle all of these items by placing them in the same container. Fluorescent light bulbs, CRTs, electronics, non-alkaline batteries, ink and toner cartridges, and other miscellaneous items are collected for recycling. Chemicals and other household hazardous waste are handled for proper disposal, and the Sustainability Manager coordinates hazardous waste pick-ups at the schools with custodians and the DPW.

We track the total tonnage recycled at each school per month, in partnership with custodians and DPW, and share this information with the school community. For access to detailed composting and recycling reports for our school district, please visit:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/recyclingandtrash/aboutrecycling/Schools/recyclinginschools/recyclingreports.aspx>.

To view a list of specific materials and items that can be recycled and which fall under the City's single-stream recycling program, please visit:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/recyclingandtrash/aboutrecycling/singlestreamrecycling.aspx>.

For all school moves associated with the Innovation Agenda, as well as the re-design and construction of new schools, we employ a highly specialized recycling and re-stream process with an outside contractor, Re-Stream. This is done for all purging of materials inside the classrooms, offices, and buildings, and for move components, in addition to single stream recycling.

Styrofoam trays and bowls are collected in the lunchroom for recycling through a process in which the trays are melted into plastic pellets and reused in various products. However, this Styrofoam tray recycling program is being phased out in accordance with the City's ordinance to ban polystyrene starting in the 2016 fall season.



CGSI (Cambridge Green Schools Initiative) promotes the Product Stewardship Institute’s school-based programs, such as “opt-out of catalogs and phonebook program,” Green Team, and other waste reduction classroom projects and clubs.

C. Composting

“Food to Flowers” Composting Program Overview

The compost generated by cafeteria food waste in these schools is picked up at each school by a sub-contractor through our Department of Public Works. It is then taken to a large-scale composting facility in Western Massachusetts, where it is converted into soil that can be used to grow food. A composting committee is formed at each school upon launch of the program, and teachers and students are trained how to compost by the DPW’s Recycling Program Manager and the school’s Sustainability Manager, who run a school-wide assembly and implement educational workshops for students.

As of March 2016, all Cambridge Public Schools are now composting their cafeteria lunch leftovers. This has been achieved in partnership with DPW and Save That Stuff, a waste contractor who currently picks up our schools’ compost material. By diverting food waste from the landfill/incinerator and composting it instead, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lower our overall “carbon footprint” as a school district.

D. Other waste

Hazardous Waste – CPSD Facilities continued to implement Hazardous Waste pick-up days in partnership with DPW. Custodians would collect hazardous waste at their schools (i.e. old paint, wax, etc.) and coordinate pick-up with Sustainability Manager and DPW.

Sustainable Disposal of School Junk – CPSD Facilities continued to work with a specialized recycling vendor for pick-ups of miscellaneous trash, waste, and items no longer wanted at schools. The vendor then disposes of items or donates them, all in an environmentally sustainable way.

III. PRODUCTS

A. Custodial Management & Cleaning Products

Currently, the Facilities Department has inventoried, recycled, and replaced outdated custodial cleaning equipment with new equipment that utilizes environmentally-friendly products, methods, and supplies. Specifically, we have removed all non-conforming cleaning supplies from our schools, implementing a Green Cleaning Program in partnership with Casey Engineering that utilizes metered green cleaning supplies through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the contract for environmentally-preferred cleaning products (contract #GR016). This cleaning program has been in place for over 6 years. All custodians have been

trained, and buildings stocked with multiple dispensers and products, which reduce packaging resources. A custodial cleaning standards handbook provides a template for custodians utilizing the green cleaning products. Facilities developed a baseline to look at the cleaning needs based on the environmental contaminants outside the building, and mitigation of the contaminants in the building.

B. Pest & Building Management

All pest-management plans continue to be updated, we are using non-VOC paint when possible, environmentally-friendly ice melt is used, all water coolers have been removed and replaced with water filtration systems, and glass replacement in buildings is completed with the highest R value glass available in this area.

C. Food Service Products and More

The Office for Sustainability partners with the Food Services director to implement sustainable practices. In the winter of 2017, we partnered with Food Services and DPW to switch our polystyrene trays and replace them with biodegradable paper trays.

We have a bioware pilot underway at CRLS, in which we have ordered and introduced compostable trays and foodware into the cafeteria for lunchtime use for the last 3 years. In partnership with our Food Services department, the Department of Public Works (DPW), and the Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), projects are underway to continue integrating environmental sustainability with health, food and nutrition goals across the school department.

D. Green Office Tips

The Sustainability Manager sends out Office Tips and other green tip-of-the-month recommendations to staff, via the monthly “green e-news” publication compiled by the school district’s Office for Sustainability. We are working with our internal Purchasing Department, as well as ICTS, to continue to order environmentally-sustainable office products, and energy-saving appliances and machines for our schools and offices.

E. Managed Print Services

The Sustainability Manager is working with ICTS to continue developing, upgrading, and purchasing energy-efficient print service machinery, and to establish a protocol for Managed Print Services.

IV. FOOD

A. Tasty Choices Program

Currently, the Tasty Choices Program, a partnership between the Cambridge Public Health

Department School Health Program and the schools' Food Services Department, is an essential part of the ongoing work to help students stay healthy and in school so that they can reach their academic potential. Through this program, school nutrition staff collaborates with the schools' Food Services Department to increase the number of healthy and appealing food choices available to students. Nutrition staff works to create a school environment that promotes healthy choices throughout the school day, as well as provide education and outreach to students, staff and families. As part of the Tasty Choices Program, the Farm to School Program, started by the Growing Healthy Collaborative, is bringing locally-grown food into the school cafeterias, including nectarines, cider, apples, peaches, tomatoes, butternut squash, carrots, and pickles.

B. Let's Move Campaign

In February 2011, Cambridge officially signed on to First Lady Michelle Obama's national campaign to end childhood obesity, entitled, "Let's Move. Locally, this campaign is being directed out of the Cambridge Public Health Department and helps to raise awareness about childhood obesity and inspire families, schools and communities to take action to help kids be more active, eat better and get healthy. The Tap Water Promotion Program (see below) is part of this initiative.

C. Citysprouts

CitySprouts is a Cambridge-based nonprofit that is currently working in all of our schools. There is a garden in every school thanks to this partnership, and CitySprouts introduces school gardens as a core element of children's public school education. The gardens ensure that hands-on learning, environmental stewardship, and the physical & sensory experience of growing and eating food becomes part of our students' public education.

D. Tap Water Promotion Program

The Office for Sustainability works in conjunction with the Cambridge Health Alliance to promote tap water drinking to keep students healthy and hydrated. Students and staff are encouraged to bring re-usable water bottles to school for filling at the bubblers, and promotional materials such as the orange and purple stickers placed on water bubblers, have been put up around the schools.

V. GREENSPACE

A. Storm Water Management

The Office for Sustainability is working on storm water management, analyzing use of pest-control for outdoor spaces, and our school district's design partners incorporate LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) elements into new building design. A green roof was built as part of the new school building on Putnam Avenue, and we continue to consider green roof options on future buildings.

B. Outdoor Environmental Education

The CPSD Office for Sustainability shares monthly information with schools and district staff on outdoors education opportunities, including use of local resources for ecological and wilderness experiential learning. Fresh Pond Reservation, Alewife Reservation, The Water Department, and the Maynard Ecology Center offer educational opportunities that we promote to schools through various announcements and our monthly Green eNews, and students get to spend time in these outdoor spaces learning about nature.

VI. TRANSPORTATION

Sustainable Transportation Overview

In partnership with the CDD (Community Development Department), as well as the Green Streets Initiative (Walk/Ride Days), the Office for Sustainability is encouraging school communities to use sustainable modes of transportation to commute: such as walking, biking, carpooling, or using public transportation. This helps to encourage people to spend time outdoors when traveling between locations, in addition to reducing energy use.

Specifically, our Office for Sustainability has partnered with the Cambridge Community Development Department to offer staff and students numerous transportation and biking workshops, as well as an innovative program called City Smart, which provides residents with a plethora of sustainable transportation resources, including downloadable maps, guides, tips, schedules and more.

Encouraging sustainable modes of transportation is an important goal within our sustainability. We continue to improve our transportation options for staff and students. In partnership with organizations such as Green Streets Initiative, Safe Routes to School, and the Cambridge Public Health Department, we educate students and staff on how to use sustainable modes of transportation to commute: such as walking, biking, carpooling, or using public transportation. This helps to encourage people to spend time outdoors when traveling between locations, in addition to reducing energy use. The CDD offers bike workshops, discounts for public transportation, and other perks which the Sustainability Manager shares regularly with staff through the monthly “green e-news” and other announcements. We have added bike racks, as well.

Cambridge Public Schools also take full advantage of the growing Hubway system, which has bikes stationed and available at numerous school sites, including Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School and, most recently, Peabody School and Rindge Avenue Upper School. The Hubway bike share system is public transportation by bike, and is owned by the municipalities of Cambridge, Boston, Brookline, and Somerville. It is fully integrated amongst the municipalities, so travel is seamless. There are over 13,000 Hubway members and bikers have made over two million trips since the system launched in 2011.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS & EDUCATION

A. Online

Monthly “Green eNews” and “Tip-Of-The-Month” written by Sustainability Manager and published by ICTS to the school community. You can subscribe to receive the monthly newsletter “Green eNews” in your e-mail inbox here:

<http://www.cpsd.us/newsletter/One.aspx?objectId=4093016&contextId=4093016&action=subscribe>

The Sustainability website provides extensive information about the Cambridge Public Schools Office for Sustainability, Cambridge Green Schools Initiative (CGSI), and news, events, projects, school-related environmental statistics, sustainability reports, an archive of the Green eNews, and environmental sustainability curriculum supplements for students and staff. It is written and maintained by the Sustainability Manager and ICTS.

The website can be viewed at:

http://www.cpsd.us/departments/facilities/office_for_sustainability.

B. Go Green Challenge

2016’s Winning Schools: Morse School (1st Place); Tobin Montessori School (2nd Place); Peabody School (3rd Place).

The Go Green Challenge is a competition run each year in the Cambridge Public School District, out of the Office for Sustainability. We partner with the Department of Public Works (DPW). Every elementary classroom teacher receives a sheet to fill out with his or her students, indicating green actions they are taking together, such as recycling, having a plant in the classroom, or printing double-sided. To view the worksheet, click here:

http://www.cpsd.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_3042785/File/departments/administration/sustainability/gogreenchallenge_2016.pdf. The Office for Sustainability in partnership with the DPW tallies the number of sheets hanging in each school. The school with the highest percent participation wins a trophy! There are second and third place prizes, as well.

Action items for classroom to complete as part of the Go Green Challenge include:

- Recycle
- Have a sign showing what to recycle on the bin
- Have a recycling bin next to each trash can
- Watch the Casella “zero-sort” recycling facility tour video (on YouTube)
- Have a paper-free day(s)
- Collect and use scrap paper
- Print documents on “Good on One Side” paper

- Print double-sided
- Minimize margins or font size on classroom documents
- Compost food scraps and napkins from classroom snacks (in the cafeteria or in our worm bin)
- Compost paper towels from the classroom
- Have a worm bin in our classroom
- Have a “lights off” reminder on the light switch
- Turn off the lights when it’s bright outside and they aren’t needed
- Have a CFL or LED bulb in the desk lamp
- Have a power strip we turn off at the end of the day for our printer/computer/monitor
- Have a plant in our classroom
- Have gone outside for a lesson
- Promote Walk/Ride Days
- Encourage use of water bottles
- Other _____

C. Educational Workshops, Materials, Partnerships

Sustainability Manager gives class presentations to staff & students, grades pre-K-12
Regular communications with custodians, principals, & city staff, in-person and online
Meetings & events with CGSI partners, such as Green Communities Committee and CHA
Materials, posters, stickers for CGSI in schools
Coordinating energy, transportation & sustainability projects and events, such as state mandated
“Employee Commute Survey” district-wide.
Sustainability Manager serves as an advisor and judge for the yearly “Glocal Challenge”
competition run by EF at the high school, which challenges students to create solutions to
climate change.

VIII. PARTNERSHIPS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A. Official Partners of the Cambridge Green Schools Initiative/CGSI

The Department of Public Works
The Cambridge Energy Alliance
Prism Energy Services
Eversource
Casey Engineering
CPSD Food Services Department
Cambridge Health Alliance
Walk/Ride Days (Green Streets Initiative)
Fresh Pond Reservation
Water Department
CDD Transportation (Jen Lawrence)

B. City & Community Partnerships

Green Communities Working Group
ICLEI Climate Task Force Training Committee
Presentations to the City's Environmental Committee & City Manager's Climate Protection Action Committee (CPAC)
Working Group for U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools Program
Georgetown University Energy Prize – Steering Committee
Eversource Charette for City of Cambridge

IX. HONORS & AWARDS

April 2016: The City of Cambridge won national recognition by achieving a *5-STAR Rating from STAR Communities (STAR)*, a Washington D.C.-based nonprofit. STAR is the nation's leading framework and certification program for evaluating *local sustainability*, encompassing environmental, social, and economic performance measures. Cambridge received high marks for its work on a range of issues, *including transportation choices, energy efficiency, and innovative programs for youth engagement.*

June 2015: The Cambridge Public Schools were awarded the *2015 Green Ribbon Schools District Sustainability Award* by the White House Council on Environmental Quality and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Cambridge Public Schools was one of 14 school districts nationwide to be recognized with a 2015 Green Ribbon Schools District Sustainability Award. The award recognized exemplary efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, promote better health, and ensure effective environmental education, including civics and green career pathways. The list of all selected schools, districts, colleges, and universities, as well as their nomination packages, can be found [here](#). A report with highlights on the 81 honorees can be found [here](#). More information on the federal recognition award can be found [here](#).

Spring 2015: The Cambridge Public Schools were recognized in a formal ceremony at the Massachusetts State House, receiving a *Commonwealth of Massachusetts Certificate of Appreciation for Environmental Excellence*, for winning the 2015 U.S. Green Ribbon District Sustainability Award.

December 2014: Achieved a 20% reduction in overall municipal energy use from 2008 baseline across the City of Cambridge, which included the Cambridge Public School District, which has the largest footprint. *Designated a Green Community by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources* for this reduction in energy use.

Cambridge Food Hero Awards 2012 & 2014: *The 2014 Cambridge Food Hero Awards Honorable Mentions* went to Mellissa Honeywood, our Cambridge Public School's Food Services Director, and Randi Mail and Meryl Brott, from the Recycling Department of Cambridge Department of Public Works. Randi and Meryl work with us on our single-stream recycling and composting programs within the school district. In 2012, Josefine Wendel, MS,



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RD, School Nutrition Coordinator, and Dawn Olcott, MS, School Nutritionist were awarded as *Cambridge Food Heroes*. Both Dawn and Josefine are based at the Cambridge Public Health Department. In addition to their work in the Cambridge Public Schools, Josefine Wendel coordinates Let's Move! Cambridge and the Cambridge Community Transformation Grant. Dawn Olcott facilitates the Cambridge Food and Fitness Policy Council and advises on cafeteria lunch and food nutrition in the schools. Jane Hirschi, Founding Director of City Sprouts won a *Cambridge Food Hero Award* in 2012, as well. City Sprouts is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization providing sustainable schoolyard gardens and environmental education for the entire Cambridge Public School District.