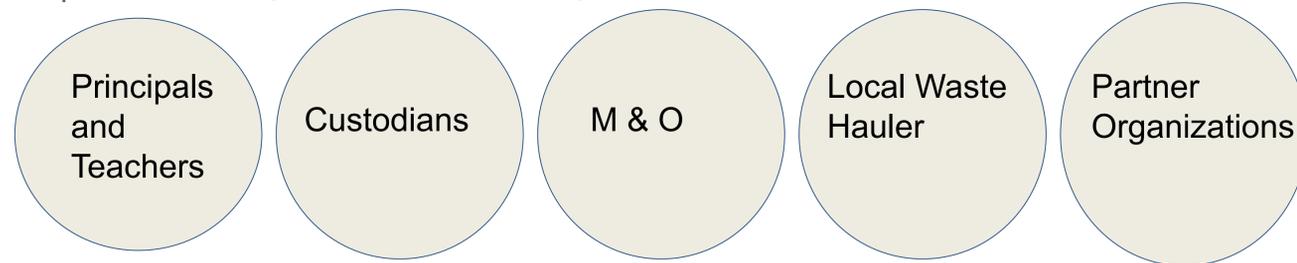


Creating a Road Map to a Greener School

Implementing a Sustainability Plan Must Include:



Berkeley Unified School District:

Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) is responsible for educating more than 9,400 individual students in 11 public elementary schools, three middle schools, one comprehensive high school, and an alternative high school. In 2018, the District demonstrated its robust commitment to sustainability by developing an eight-part Sustainability Plan. The comprehensive Plan includes Green Buildings and Materials, Transportation, Water, Energy, Waste, Food, Schoolyards, and Eco-literacy.

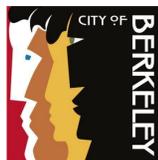
Energy

- Lead a District-wide Energy Conservation Competition
- Conducted outreach for competition
- Presented launch lesson to students
- Followed the progress of individual school sites

Waste

- Assessed waste management systems at each school + identified areas for improvement
- Purchased waste infrastructure + signage for bins
- Met with Green Teams to explore waste reduction at each school site
- Coordinated meetings with custodians to understand the challenges and successes of the waste reduction program

Our Partners:



District Sustainability Achievements

District Waste Improvements:

- Conducted 13 site visits and assessments
- Increased recycling and composting by purchasing and delivering 250 recycling bins for Berkeley High School classrooms and 16 compost bins for elementary school classrooms.
- Conducted 12 waste audits

Community Engagement:

- Presented the second official sustainability update to the School Board
- Created, revised, or contributed to 13 outreach materials
- Created and managed the BUSD Sustainability Google forum which has 115 members.
- Presented waste regulations to 2 staff meetings this school year
- Conducted an Energy Conservation Launch lesson at 4 school sites

Next Steps

- Identify the Lead Teachers at each school site, train them at the beginning of the year, provide them with resources, and support them on an ongoing basis.
- Always clarify expectations and ensure proper coordination for waste reduction efforts.
- Improve communications and coordination with District and external community.
- Continue to highlight success stories in the District's monthly newsletter.



Sofia Peltz is a graduate of Bard College with a BS in Sociology and a focus on food systems. Sofia hopes to continue her sustainability work at the Berkeley Unified School District as a Sustainability Coordinator. She is personally passionate about both the environmental determinants of health and food security issues.

Sofia Peltz, 2019-2020 Climate Corps Fellow



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