

# 2019 CARBON NEUTRAL ACTION REPORT



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# Executive Summary

On behalf of the Board of Education No. 61 (Greater Victoria) I am pleased to submit our Carbon Neutral Action Plan for 2019. Our 2019 report clearly demonstrates our District's ongoing commitment to the reduction of our greenhouse gas emissions. Our Board, as in previous years, continues to work diligently, to improve the learning environment for students and staff through its demonstrated support and leadership in the reduction of our carbon footprint.

The integration of environmentally sustainable considerations continues to influence all of our business decisions supported by our Board approved Environmental Change Policy.

Recognizing the importance of reducing our carbon footprint, a focus on energy savings and greenhouse gas emission reductions continue to be a priority in our ongoing commitment towards carbon neutrality. Projects that include the installation of high efficiency condensing boilers, heating control upgrades, and the installation of energy efficient windows. We continue to demonstrate to students, staff and community the importance of environmental sustainability fully supported by our Board of Trustees' ongoing commitment towards carbon neutrality.

As part of our 2019 energy savings program we have replaced more of our older inefficient heating systems, installed new heating controls, and replaced windows to ensure energy efficiency and were part of an energy program through BC Hydro. In the coming year, we have plans to hire an Energy Manager who will be invaluable and will work on auditing our buildings while we continue to complete these very successful energy savings initiatives. These initiatives will allow us to move forward in our efforts to further reduce our carbon footprint while providing opportunities to modernize our schools and fleet.

As reported previously, our District continues to receive tremendous support from students, staff and parents for initiatives that embrace and model sustainability, social responsibility and reductions to our carbon footprint. The students' passion for change and enthusiasm in reducing our impact on the environment is an inspiration to us all. We are extremely proud of our achievements to date and look forward to continued success in this area.

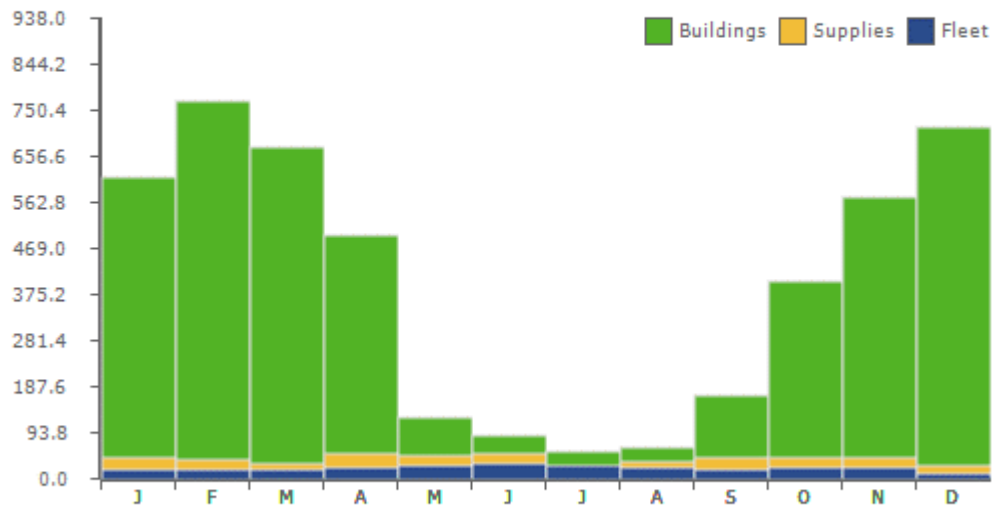
For the 2019 reporting period the Greater Victoria school district has used the 2018 total offsets of 4,849 tons. With an adjustment of 19 tons, for a net offset of 4868. There was an adjustment to the GHG emissions for previous year totaling -258 tons. The total investment for these offsets is \$120,566.25.

The Board of Education No. 61 (Greater Victoria) clearly recognizes its role as a leader in environmental stewardship and will continue to support initiatives that will reduce energy consumption and reduce our impact on the environment.

## School District 61 - Greater Victoria Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Source for the 2018 Calendar Year (tCO<sub>2</sub>e\*)

### Total Emissions Calendar Year 2018 School District 61 - Greater Victoria

Metric tonnes  
CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)



Click on the bars to view data for each month

**Total Emissions: 4,868**

#### Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2018

Total offsets required: **4,868**. Total offset investment: **\$120,566.25**. Emissions which do not require offsets: **19**

\*Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) is a standard unit of measure in which all types of greenhouse gases are expressed based on their global warming potential relative to carbon dioxide.

\*\* Under the *Carbon Neutral Government Regulation of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*, all emissions from the sources listed above must be reported. As outlined in the regulation, some emissions do not require offsets.

**Declaration statement:** This Carbon Neutral Action Report for the period January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 has utilized the 2018 results and summarizes our emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2019 to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2020 and beyond.

By June 30, 2020 the Greater Victoria's School District's final *Carbon Neutral Action Report* will be posted to our website at <https://healthyschools.sd61.bc.ca>

# Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2019

**Greater Victoria School District #61 offsets applied to become Carbon Neutral in 2019 (using 2018 data)**

Total Emissions: 4,868 tonnes

Total Offsets: 19 tons

Total Adjustments: 256

Total emissions that require an offset investment: **\$120,566.25 for 2018**

*\*\*Under the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act, all emissions from the sources listed above must be reported. As outlined in the regulation, some emissions do not require offsets.*

## Changes to Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Offsets Reporting from Previous Years

Year	Totals	Emissions	Offsets Purchased
2010	6082	6096	\$152,050
2011	6950	6974	\$173,750
2012	6362 + 22	6387	\$159,050
2013	5545 - 172	5373	\$134,325
2014	5041-20	5021	\$125,525
2015	4823-19	4804	\$120,100
2016	4,449+228	4,677	\$116,925
2017	5290+16	5,306	\$132,250
2018	4849 + 19	4,868	\$120,566
2019	TBD	TBD	TBD

# Emissions Reduction Activities

## Actions Taken to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2019

- Boiler replacement at Richmond Elementary. Replacement of the 2 original 1960 boilers to 2 new energy-efficient condensing boilers.
- Window replacements. Phase 2 of the window replacement program at Mt Doug was completed. Approximately 15% of the existing single-pane windows were replaced with new energy-efficient windows.

## Plans to Continue Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In 2020 we will work towards reducing our energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by focusing on upgrading and replacing the aging heating systems and controls, replacing aging windows, upgrading more of our aging fleet and implementing an energy awareness strategy across the school district.

As a public sector organization our ability to continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is dependent on government funding. Our Board remains committed to support energy saving initiatives through Ministry of Education funding received for major capital improvements and the Ministry of Education's Annual Facilities Grant (AFG) and the newly introduced Carbon Neutral Capital Plan (CNCP).

- The Greater Victoria School District No. 61 has a link for Green Initiatives on the School District Website: <https://healthyschools.sd61.bc.ca>

**Retirement of Offsets:**

In accordance with the requirements of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act and Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, the Greater Victoria School District is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2019 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years. The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Environment 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:**

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Signature	Date
Name (please print), CEO, COO or Superintendent	Title