School Sustainable Schools Policy

RATIONALE:
The Sustainable Schools Program at Burwood East Primary School is a proactive initiative to increase awareness and develop a positive change in attitudes towards issues of sustainability within our environment to use now and in the future. It will contribute to the protection and sustainability of the environment by minimising waste, providing for the development and practice of biodiversity, and conserving energy and water usage within the school and its wider community.

GUIDELINES:
- Through an innovative educational program, integrate environmental sustainability across the curriculum and in the practical operations of the school
- Involve the whole school and its community in setting and maintaining achievable targets for:
  1. Waste and litter minimisation and recycling
  2. Biodiversity
  3. Energy conservation, renewable energy and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
  4. Water conservation
- Where appropriate develop a Master Plan for the grounds, that will improve the image and appearance of the school
- Involve school community members in the planning and implementation of changes that make a difference to the management and sustainability within the school environment

IMPLEMENTATION:
- Establishment of BEPS Sustainability Community Group, which will implement the Sustainable Schools Policy, through a one hour session each week and management of the school environment.
- The Buildings and Grounds Sub Committee to work in conjunction with the BEPS Community Group.
- Planned inclusion of Integrated Inquiry EnviroLiteracy Throughline to include waste, biodiversity, energy and water elements in the curriculum at all levels within the school.
- Regular communication with the wider community about sustainability issues affecting the school through the Buzz (newsletter), forums or committees and special projects and events, etc…
- Sustainable daily practice will be embedded in everyday behaviours of all members of the school community, eg. Collecting water from dripping taps, encouraging nude food, switching off lights, air-conditioners and heaters when not in classrooms, etc.
- Progressive fitting of appliances and equipment with energy and water efficient products.
- Ongoing maintenance of waste recycling into precise collection units, and use of the local councils recycling service.
- Revaluate and establish the location of the compost bins and worm farms for convenient use and easier accessibility.

DATE: 2011

REVIEW: 2014
Reference: Resource Smart Aussi Vic