

# Green Schools Resolution

April 2012

*Whereas*, school infrastructure and good indoor environmental quality contribute to the health, well being and potential for achievement of staff and students;

*Whereas*, it is believed that green schools create a clean environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources, and money;

*Whereas*, the benefits of superior indoor air quality maintain healthy environments, reduce student absenteeism, and increase teacher retention;

*Whereas*, it is believed that schools built utilizing green building tenets establish, from the beginning, a positive educational environment through improvements in site selection, daylighting, indoor air quality, thermal comfort, acoustics, and overall classroom design, all of which have an impact on a teaching and learning;

*Whereas*, green schools do not necessarily cost more to build than conventional schools;

*Whereas*, green schools can cost less to operate and maintain, utilize durable materials, and reduce water and energy use, all of which generates savings to the District and the taxpayers;

*Whereas*, more energy efficient buildings will help to mitigate resource deficiencies in our schools; and

*Whereas*, green schools provide an excellent educational experience by creating a host of opportunities for curriculum innovation and hands-on, project-based learning in which the building itself becomes an interactive teaching tool.


**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the School Board of Alachua County will continue to emphasize integration of the following attributes in all District school facilities: (1) increasing the energy and resource efficiency and reducing the operating costs of schools; (2) utilizing green, durable, and sustainable building products and practices in the construction of schools; and (3) improving the indoor environmental quality of schools.

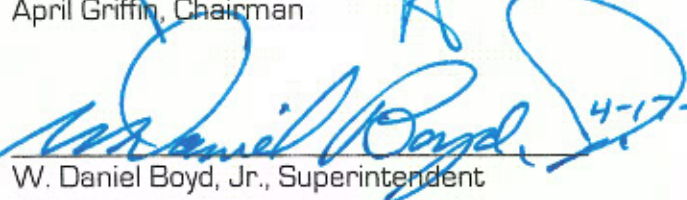
For new construction and major renovations/additions of the District, the projects will continue to utilize reasonable measures, in accordance with the District's overall budget, to seek and submit applications for nationally recognized green building certifications. The school district will make a good faith effort to meet a basic certification level on all projects. Projects will be encouraged to earn higher level certifications to the extent practicable.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2012.



ATTEST:

  
April Griffin, Chairman 4-17-12

  
W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent 4-17-12