

School District 72 (Campbell River)  
2024 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report



**Title:** 2024 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report

**Organization:** School District 72 (Campbell River)

**PART 1. Legislative Reporting Requirements**

**Declaration statement:** This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2024 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2025 and beyond.

**Emission Reductions: Actions & Plans**

In 2024 the District prioritized projects that aim to reduce our overall energy use and GHG emissions including major retrofits to HVAC systems at Sandowne Elementary and sourcing of the District’s first two electric school buses. The district also formally engaged with a contracted third party energy management firm to provide additional resources and support for our carbon neutral efforts. The district continues to plan for future projects that will reduce energy consumption, prioritized on sites with the highest energy intensity.

### **A. Stationary Sources (e.g., buildings, power generation)**

2024 Saw the following projects being completed:

Location	Description	Budget	Funding Source(s)	Comments
Sandowne Elementary	HVAC Upgrade	\$603,510	Ministry of Education – Carbon Neutral Capital Program	Mechanical upgrade classrooms 17-23.
Sayward School	Life Cycle replacement of flat roof	\$900,000	Ministry of Education – School Enhancement Program	Replacement of approximately 18,000 sq ft of flat roof. Substantially improved roof R-value through increased insulation.
District-wide	Third Party Energy Management and Controls Recommissioning	\$85,000	Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant	The District is engaging with a third party energy management company with specialization in schools to provide energy management services and controls recommissioning.
Various	Building Automation Graphical Interface Upgrade	\$48,076	Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant	Upgraded the building automation control system's graphical interface for ease of monitoring and access at 6 schools.

Projects approved for 2025 are summarized below.

Location	Description	Preliminary Budget	Funding Source(s)	Comments
Robron Middle	HVAC Upgrade	\$438,321	Ministry of Education – Carbon Neutral Capital Program	HVAC upgrade with the installation of 13 air sourced heat pumps which will also provide building cooling.
Ocean Grove Elementary	Life Cycle replacement of roof	\$365,645	Ministry of Education – School Enhancement Program	Upgrade and repairs to the metal roof including replacement of the gutter.
District-wide	Third Party Energy Management	\$65,000	Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant	Ongoing third party energy management and minor projects including DDC improvements and monitoring.
Ecole Phoenix Middle	Electrical Upgrade	\$300,000	Ministry of Education – School Enhancement Program	Electrical service upgrade ensuring future electrification readiness.
District-wide	Building Controls Optimization Phase 1	\$85,000	BCH and Ministry of Education – Annual Facilities Grant	BCH sponsored building recommissioning projects undertaken by a third-party consultant.

## **B. Mobile Sources (e.g., fleet vehicles, off-road/portable equipment)**

In 2024 the District received two new electric school buses funded from the Ministry of Education and a grant from the Federal Zero Emission Vehicle Fund. Both buses have been put into service on routes servicing Sayward to Campbell River and within the Campbell River region itself.

### C. Paper Consumption

Paper consumption represents a very small portion of our organization’s carbon footprint. There is general awareness of options for more environmentally friendly sources of paper and use of electronic correspondence is the norm throughout the school district. Printing volumes are monitored and the district is discussing ways to reduce printed materials. Many departments are working to streamline processes to reduce paper consumption including the district-wide adoption of the Microsoft Sharepoint platform to support paperless work flows.

### 2024 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

School District 72 (Campbell River) 2024 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary	
GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2024	
Total BioCO <sub>2</sub>	31
Total Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	2,206
Total Offsets (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,751
Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	0
Grand Total Offsets for the 2024 Reporting Year	
Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2024 Reporting Year (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,751
Offset Investment (\$)	\$43,775

### Retirement of Offsets:

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, School District 72 – Campbell River (**the Organization**) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2024 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years (if applicable). The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (**the Ministry**) 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.

## **PART 2. Public Sector Climate Leadership**

### **2A. Climate Risk Management**

Although School District 72 operates in the coastal region which typically experiences a moderate climate through all 4 seasons, climate change adaptation is an ongoing consideration when conducting facility repairs or upgrades. Ongoing programs include the use of reflective roof coatings (mitigating the effects of urban heat sinks), upgrades to drainage systems including natural drainage systems at a number of sites including Sandowne elementary, Robron Alternative School, Ripple Rock Elementary, and Cedar Elementary, and the lifecycle replacement of heat pumps across the district. As exemplified during the recent 2021 and 2022 heat domes, reactive measures include the installation of portable air conditioners and fans.

In 2024 some specific measures were taken that address climate risk:

- Seven (7) new childcare centers were constructed with air source heat pumps which provide cooling.
- Design began on the installation of a wetland drainage retention system for the fields at Southgate Middle School.
- Project planning began for the construction of a wetland drainage retention system at Cortes Elementary with a grant provided by the Strathcona Regional District. This work will be undertaken in 2025.

### **2B. Additional Sustainability Initiatives**

Outdoor educational activities are found in all school programs as a key support for raising environmental awareness and promoting sustainability. In 2024 the district had a part time outdoor education coordinated who was working with schools on advancing the design of outdoor learning spaces, a program that will start to roll out in 2025. School gardens are found throughout the school district at all sites.

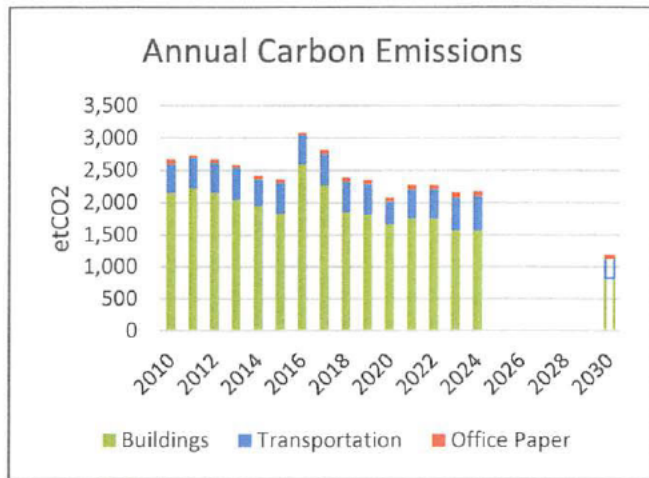
Operational Procedure 515 (Environmental Responsibility) reinforces the district's commitment to protecting and preserving the environment. An example of this commitment is the extensive recycling program found throughout the school district.

Climate engagement is happening in a number of areas across the district with focused engagement work happening at the two sites earmarked for wetland restoration work (Southgate Middle, Cortes Elementary).

Water conservation measures are in place for schools that utilize well water (Quadra Elementary, Cortes Elementary).

## 2C. Success Stories

Plots below show the total annual emissions, including the 2030 targets, separated by Buildings, Transportation, and Office Paper. Comparing 2024 to 2010 one can observe an 18.4% reduction. Provided that buildings account for most emissions, its isolated emissions are illustrated with a 27.4% reduction when comparing 2024 to 2010.



## Executive Sign-off:

Signature

Date May 28, 2025

KEVIN PATRICK

Name (please print)

SECRETARY/- TREASURER

Title