

2223R-019
Green Revolving Fund

By Director Peterson

WHEREAS, Through its adoption of Resolution 1920R-016, “Our House is on Fire” (adopted March 2017) the District encourages schools to develop school-based Green Teams with the involvement of educators, students, parents and community to expand school-based and District-wide curricular and sustainability projects and that the District develop a Green Revolving Fund (GRF), seeded in part by cost savings (fee reductions) from sustainability initiatives, to allow the Green Revolving Fund to grow over time to support additional investments and to provide financial incentives for school-based and District-wide green projects; and

WHEREAS, In adopting Resolution 2223R-007 (July 2022), the Milwaukee Public Schools joined Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee in adopting the international climate reduction targets, which includes the interim target of cutting greenhouse emissions by 45% by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Many school districts and universities across the nation have established Green Revolving Funds and their experience is a resource we can learn from; and

WHEREAS, The creation of a GRF would encourage schools and departments to increase their commitment to sustainability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Public Schools establish a pilot GRF to be included in the FY24 (2023-2024) budget; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The funds for the pilot be established by demonstrating City of Milwaukee stormwater utility fee reductions resulting from innovative green schoolyard stormwater management practices and expanded to other areas such as energy efficiency projects reducing electricity usage; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Administration, through Financial Planning and Budget Services and Procurement and Risk Management, work with the existing District Sustainability Team to develop the methods to calculate fee reductions for inclusion in the annual budget process, establish mechanisms and criteria to allocate those funds, including a process by which applicants match GRF allocated funds to assure a joint interest and commitment to following through on recommended GRF supported projects; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the GRF project recommendations and tracking process be the responsibility of the Sustainability Project Specialists within the Department of Facilities and Maintenance Services; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the June 2023 Board cycle, the Sustainability Project Specialists report on a framework for the plan, including the roles of key District departments, timelines, and goals for the GRF pilot.

Introduced March 23, 2023