



**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION and GROWTH MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING and COMMUNITY RESILIENCE DIVISION**

Mailing Address: 115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 329H • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
954-519-1270 • FAX 954-519-1496

September 18, 2018

Ms. Susan M. Cantrick
Director, Applied Learning Department
Broward County Public Schools
KC Wright School Board Building
600 SE Third Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

**RE: Renewal of Partnership Agreement in Support of NatureScape Broward
Programming in Broward Schools**

Dear Ms. Cantrick,

Over the past year, we have continued to make great progress in implementing NatureScape Broward and other environmental stewardship programs in Broward County Public Schools under the terms of our Environmental Partnership Agreement (copy attached). To date, we have facilitated the certification of 216 landscapes at school facilities, delivered over 1,850 classroom educational programs, trained approximately 700 District teachers and almost 1,000 custodial/facilities staff in School Board-endorsed training sessions, and provided valuable environmental information to an additional 2,000 teachers, administrators, custodial staff and other School Board employees through personal contact. This year saw the implementation of the Sixth Annual P₃ Eco-Challenge, an event that strengthens the ties between our agencies and encourages students, teachers, and support staff to actively engage in sustainability measures.

During this past school year, we saw continued growth in the number of students that directly received educational lessons intended to raise their consciousness on the importance of water conservation, native landscaping, and environmental stewardship, and which are grounded in STEM-based skills. To date, over 56,000 students have participated in classroom and outdoor environmental activities directly related to our partnership agreement. The P₃ Eco-Challenge Awards Ceremony and Broward Water Matters Day events which we have jointly collaborated on have been a great success, enjoyed by students, teachers, and members of the community. These ongoing achievements and program opportunities are promoted through the semi-annual *SchoolScapes* newsletter that outlines our partnership activities over the past year as well as quarterly status reports, and the attached Annual Progress Report.

As you know, the evaluation of irrigation systems on school properties is another important component of the partnership. This past school year, the NatureScape Broward Water Conservation Specialist conducted 38 irrigation system evaluations at 17 school facilities, resulting in almost 36 million gallons of annual water savings and cost savings of \$150,000 annually in reduced potable water

Broward County Board of County Commissioners
Mark D. Bogen • Beam Furr • Steve Geller • Dale V.C. Holness • Chip LaMarca • Nan H. Rich • Tim Ryan • Barbara Sharief • Michael Udine
www.broward.org

fees. Since initiating the NatureScape Broward irrigation evaluations within the schools, over 285 school campuses have been evaluated with over 417 million gallons of annual water savings. In addition, water audits addressing indoor water conservation were conducted at three schools this past year and have provided recommended improvements for an additional 6.7 million gallons of annual water savings. These efforts collectively provide real water, energy, and cost savings to the School Board of Broward County, which are reflected on the attached Return on Investment documentation showing a realized ROI of 1.14 or 114%.

We hope you concur that through our partnership agreement, we have realized great success in implementing the NatureScape Broward initiative in our public schools. As such, the County would very much like to continue providing these services for an additional five-year period, and kindly requests the School Board consider renewal through approval of this Agreement, to become effective at the end of the current term on December 11, 2018.

We look forward to continuing our partnership in this very important initiative. Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Robert Rudolph at (954) 519-0328.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Jurado, Ph.D., Director and Chief Resilience Officer
Broward County Environmental Planning & Community Resilience Division

cc: Rob Jindracek, Manager, Environmental Conservation/Utility Management
Roger Riddlemoser, Director, Environmental Health & Safety Department
Lisa Mikenkovic, Supervisor, STEM+Computer Science

Attachments