



The Green Schools Conference presents an engaging and rich professional development opportunity for attendees. The content of the conference pulls together professional expertise from diverse fields that work together for success in any green school effort: those who teach in, lead, build, and operate K-12 schools.

What does the event include?

- **Impactful education sessions:** One-hour education sessions taught in a variety of formats lead attendees in exploring new ideas and methods for their work. Topics typically include outdoor learning, STEM and the environment, net zero energy schools, student leadership in green operations of the school, and more. Sessions allow attendees to engage directly with one another and the presenters to dig in to how to implement complex concepts such as diversity and inclusion or student voice and agency into green school efforts.
- **Inspiring general sessions:** Thought-provoking keynote presentations give context to the education provided at the conference and stretch attendees' understanding of how to bring sustainability to life in the classroom. Former keynotes include educator Chris Emdin, designer and urban agriculture advocate Emmanuel Pratt, Biomimicry expert and pioneer Janine Benyus, world-renowned artist Zaria Forman and ocean advocate and STEM TV series host Danni Washington.
- **Peer to peer networking:** Attendees have numerous opportunities for conversations with peers to discuss projects and goals, pose challenges they face, receive advice and share strategies on reaching sustainability targets. The audience represents a diverse set of backgrounds – teachers, administrators, facility managers, architects, engineers, product suppliers, nonprofit partners, and more – and these opportunities provide a fresh perspective and valuable insight.

How much does full event registration cost?

- K-12 school and district attendees and government attendees: \$85 Early Bird or \$100 Regular
- Employees of USGBC Members: \$105 Early Bird or \$125 Regular
- General: \$120 Early Bird or \$140 Regular



What can attendees expect to learn?

Educators:

- Tackle the challenge of helping students apply new concepts, using their real-world environment. Learn strategies to use data to empower student action.
- Explore how to address math and literacy standards while exposing students to sustainable practices and habits, such as nutritious eating. Come away with model lessons that can be calibrated to fit your students.
- Get ideas for bringing the outdoors into your classroom. Learn to develop a sense of place for your students in nature while teaching science, writing, history, and more. Develop a toolkit of new teaching habits designed to immerse your students in the natural world.
- Maximize student engagement by using the context of the entire school environment and community at large. Break down the barriers and receive direct instruction in how to make sustainability cross-curricular, student-centered, empowering and fun for learners of all ages.

Administrators:

- Learn how to go beyond “buy-in” to integrate sustainability in school culture. Explore how to grapple with the challenges of integrating education for sustainability within shifting landscapes of education standards and with diverse opinions about the value of sustainability in schools.
- Learn how schools have leveraged school and classroom space as the “third teacher” to positively influence physical and mental health. Hear from experts about architecture that uses quality light, materials and acoustics to make high-performance school environments.
- Explore case studies in building successful community partnerships. Learn how to develop guiding principles that help all stakeholders support the best interests of the community.
- Gain understanding about the innovation that happens when curriculum- and facilities-related decisions are integrated to promote sustainability. Learn about approaches and strategic partnerships that can reinforce whole-school culture that is in alignment with sustainability.
- Hear from peers who have developed systems of measurement and evaluation to ensure desired educational and sustainability outcomes from green school efforts.

Facilities and building professionals:

- Explore and understand lessons learned by school districts in strategic energy and water management. Learn new ways to track data and take on financing challenges in a school or district. Optimize the connection between efficiency, student behavior and hands-on education.
- Gain insight into school recycling, composting and other waste management efforts. Discover examples to increase nutrition and reduce the costs and environmental impacts of handling food and packaging throughout the full cycle of feeding children in school.
- Learn strategies to tackle some of the greatest roadblocks to innovative school construction: challenges with adequate funding, working within public school regulatory environments, balancing participatory design with the timeline of design and construction, and implementing “bleeding edge” design and construction technologies in risk-averse systems.
- See inspiring classroom and school environments that bring sustainability to life for students and incorporate 21st century learning opportunities into the physical environment.