



Green Schools
National Network

GSNN Catalyst Network

Positioning sustainability as the driver of innovation in K-12 education.



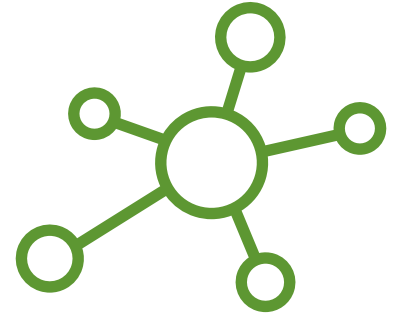
"The Catalyst Network brings together pioneers and thought leaders in the movement to provide space for incubating replication hubs across the country."

– Tim Baird, Superintendent (retired), Encinitas Union School District



Our Vision: Healthy, Safe, Sustainable Schools for All

In 2017, Green Schools National Network (GSNN) launched the Catalyst Network to showcase how sustainability is driving innovation in K-12 schools. The Catalyst Network is comprised of schools and school districts across the country that are leveraging the triple bottom line to prepare students to co-create a sustainable future while increasing student achievement; improving the health and well-being of students and staff; and decreasing operational costs and the school's/district's ecological footprint.



A Nationwide Network of Catalyst Partners

GSNN is building a nationwide network of Catalyst partners to serve as replication hubs, places where educators, students, and school leaders can go to learn from their peers and return home to implement some or all of the best practices they experienced.

The Catalyst Network includes two categories of schools and districts:

Accelerator

Accelerator Schools and Districts are leaders in operationalizing sustainability practices consistently and with measurable results. They are committed to documenting, sharing, and elevating their work and serving as inspirational models to create learning conditions that support education for sustainability; design and operations that decrease environmental impact; and programs and spaces that enhance health and well-being.

Transition

Transition Schools are in the early stages of operationalizing whole school sustainability and aspire to create the conditions that support education for sustainability; design and operations that decrease environmental impact; and programs and spaces that enhance health and well-being.

"The Catalyst Network provides the foundation for a symbiotic approach to sustainability and education. As a result, our students are more confident in who they are and empowered to make a positive difference for themselves, their environment, and their communities."

– Geoff Deigan, Executive Director, Prairie Crossing Charter School



Join Our Growing Network of Catalyst Partners

The power of the Catalyst Network lies in the community of practice among our Accelerator and Transition partners. GSNN knows from research and experience that educators learn best from other educators. The Catalyst Network creates opportunities for partners to learn from and support each other as they blaze new pathways to prepare students as leaders for a healthy, sustainable future.

Once a district expresses an interest to join the catalyst network, they will work with GSNN staff to define partnership roles and develop a five-year plan that is tailored to meet their specific needs and budget.

Through our application process, schools and districts are identified as Accelerators or in Transition based on how well they are operationalizing best practices in the following areas:

- Curriculum that advances environmental and sustainability literacy;
- Stewardship, equity, and service-learning;
- Sustainable facilities design, operation, and management that reduces environmental impact and operating costs;
- Programs and buildings that enhance the health and well-being of students and staff;
- Organizational culture that is equitable, just, collaborative, and regenerative; and
- Commitment to document, evaluate, and research best practices and processes.

Application Process



Each partnership launches with a 1.5 day Sustainability Leadership Summit that results in a five-year Action Plan. Accelerator Action Plans are designed to focus on documenting and sharing best practices with others and preparing for replication site seminars. Transition Action Plans are designed to support schools and districts in their efforts to operationalize whole school sustainability on their journey to become an Accelerator.

	Year One	Year Two and Three	Year Four and Five
Direct Support from GSNN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.5 day on-site Executive Sustainability Leadership Summit for schools Development of 3 - 5 year Action Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 hours of remote support or one on-site consulting day to refine Action Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site and remote support as needed to plan and implement site seminars
Leadership Support & Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two slots at Fall and Spring Catalyst Leaders Forums Two slots at a site seminar of choice Quarterly web-based meetings for Catalyst Leaders Unlimited slots at quarterly webinars 		
General Membership Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to GSNN Resources Green Schools Catalyst Quarterly Green Teacher Magazine Discounted rates to Green Schools Conference and Expo Monthly newsletters for all school/district faculty and staff Special Catalyst discounts to GSNN events and seminars 		
School Coaching and Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many Accelerator and Transition partners increase their services to incorporate additional professional development and coaching services to achieve the goals of their Action Plans. 		

Interested in joining the Catalyst Network and becoming a leader of change?
Contact Executive Director Jennifer Seydel at jseydel@greenschoolsnationalnetwork.org



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