



Brophy College Preparatory

Statement on Sustainability

Our school's Mission states "Brophy...is committed to the belief that all creation is a reflection of God's love and presence which demands a passionate and generous response from the entire community." In his new encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate*, Pope Benedict XVI calls us to value nature as God's creation. "In nature," he writes, "the believer recognizes the wonderful result of God's creative activity, which we may use responsibly to satisfy our legitimate needs, material or otherwise, while respecting the intrinsic balance of creation. The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole." Nature, therefore, being one of God's creations, is as much a reflection of God's love and presence as is humanity, deserving the same passionate and generous response from the Brophy community.

As a Jesuit, Catholic, college preparatory, Brophy has a special obligation to care for God's creation. Given the intersection of sustainability and environmental issues with theological, ethical, human rights, and social issues, Brophy has a responsibility to take a leadership role in the education and stewardship of the environment in order to develop a more sustainable way of living for future generations.

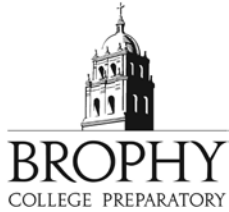
Education

Academics

- Brophy seeks to educate its students, faculty, staff and extended community about environmental sustainability. The unique culture at Brophy promotes strong interaction between faculty and students. Students learn through open and honest discussion with their teachers and are offered strong examples from which to mold their behavior. The concepts of sustainability can be addressed through this educational model and through the existing curriculum, including science, ethics, social justice, history, religion, and economic. Issues related to sustainability can also be incorporated into extracurricular activities, clubs, school event and spiritual retreats.

Community Outreach

- Brophy has a long history of community service and requires its student to spend a minimum amount of time volunteering in the community in order to graduate. The students, faculty and staff should be encouraged to bring information about sustainability to the broader community. Brophy's efforts in sustainability should be publicized to the campus community and beyond. We must promote our commitment to sustainability by hosting our events in a sustainable manner, rewarding sustainable behavior and creating opportunities for students and faculty to participate in sustainability-related events off campus.



Stewardship

Operations

- At Brophy, we are dedicated to the integration of sustainable practices into the daily administration and operation of our school. We have an opportunity to change institutional and individual behavior by purchasing supplies and materials that are sensitive to our environment, offering healthier and more sustainable alternatives to campus dining, and decreasing our consumption of natural resources. Because Brophy serves a large geographical area, we have a responsibility to decrease the impact that transporting our student, faculty and staff has on the environment.

Physical Plant

- Brophy seeks to lead by example. To this end, the infrastructure of the school is being transformed to decrease the school's impact on the environment including decreasing the consumption of natural resources and decreasing pollution. The planning of future facilities will consider building reuse as much as is practical, consider the concepts of energy efficient design, consider indoor air quality and incorporate the use of environmentally friendly building materials. The construction of such facilities will incorporate environmentally sensitive building practices including waste management techniques, recycling, and pollution controls. These efforts can lead to financial savings for the school as well as reinforce our commitment to the sustainability of our physical plant.

The implementation of our Statement on Sustainability will take leadership and resources. Brophy's Committee on Sustainability develops a strategic plan for the implementation of specific actions to promote sustainability on the Brophy campus as outlined by this Statement. The school will dedicate the appropriate resources and funding to ensure the timely implementation of this plan.

At Brophy, we take responsibility for our actions and hold ourselves accountable for the impact we have on our environment. We encourage open discussion on environmental issues in order to identify new ideas and opportunities. We embrace the idea that nature is one of God's creations and we embrace our role as leaders in the movement toward a more sustainable future.

Value Nature as God's Creation

"In nature, the believer recognizes the wonderful result of God's creative activity, which we may use responsibly to satisfy our legitimate needs, material or otherwise, while respecting the intrinsic balance of creation. The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole."

Pope Benedict XVI