

One important way for boards to manage energy consumption is to manage underutilized space. When boards right-size their schools, they reduce operating and capital costs, and use energy more efficiently.

Our government understands and supports the importance of building energy-efficient and sustainable infrastructure, including schools. When a new school is built to replace an old one in poor condition, school boards reduce their energy footprints. Current building standards are energy conscious and environmentally sensitive, and our ministry has increased funding benchmarks to ensure that boards can build schools to these higher standards. These benchmarks support energy efficient elements such as windows, lighting, and heating/cooling systems in new schools.

You may be interested to know that the majority of boards have reported to the ministry that their newly constructed schools have exceeded the minimum energy efficiency standards in the Ontario Building Code.

Thank you again for taking the time to write and express your interest in energy efficiency. I trust that together, we can continue to work toward reducing energy consumption in our schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liz Sandals". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a large, faint, diagonal watermark that says "APPENDIX A".

Liz Sandals
Minister