# University of Massachusetts Amherst

### iCons: Next Generation

Grace Wills, Margaret Williams, Crystal Kagunyi, Ryan Dougherty Isenberg, College of Engineering, College of Natural Science



## Objective

create a sustainable process that schools can follow to become more environmentally friendly







## Next Steps

- 1. Create a website with the sustainable plan.
- 1. Use our data to start a consulting business that helps schools connect with sustainable companies to convert schools to environmentally friendly practices.
- 1. Connect with potential schools who are looking for guidance and assistance on their path to sustainability





#### Change 1: Renewable Energy

- Lowers energy bill while reducing emissions.
- Can be implemented by direct purchase or PPA.
- Depending on the district, financial limitations may be present if unable to find outside funding.

#### Change 2: LED Lighting

- Significantly reduces the amount of energy used, saving the school money.
- Rebates are available to schools to implement this sustainable lighting source for little to no cost.
- Rebates available may vary due to location.

#### Change 3: Compost & Recycling

- prevents excess pollution, educational benefits
- simple implementation → recycling or composting facility, school gardens
- affordable change & sometimes cheaper

#### Change 4: Green Space

- Improve the mental well-being of students, Increases biodiversity, Naturally traps CO2
- Working with a company like Project Learning Tree that focuses on improving school environments with grants
- Having small plants classes could take care of is a good first step with no financial support.

#### **Change 5: Education**

- Teaches students about taking action, they can make better decisions.
- Use a curriculum resource center that will integrate teachings on sustainability to many different subjects
- Regularly inviting guest speakers







