### Sustainable Business Needs Sustainable Schools:

# Michigan School Sustainability Corps







Are you a school administrator with an interest in more sustainability education for your students or more investment in your facilities or food service?

Are you a business or community leader, or sustainability professional, with an interest in supporting the next generation of sustainability leaders?

In Michigan Sustainable Business Forum's engagement with business and community leaders on sustainability and sustainable business, education is always highlighted as a pressing need, with a general consensus that systems change starts in K-12 schools. However, anecdotal evidence suggests Michigan schools lack robust integration of sustainability.

The Forum is conducting outreach to schools, businesses, and community stakeholders across Michigan in order to better understand the need for and interest in community-based sustainability education and sustainable business practices.

We want to know whether a program facilitated through private-sector partnerships and mentors from higher education sustainability offices can fill the capacity gaps that we believe exist.



#### **Problem Statement**

Schools can develop climate-ready citizens and workers, reduce costs, minimize pollution, and create healthier learning environments, but do not have capacity or resources to seize opportunity.



# Learning from Higher Education Initiatives

Michigan colleges and universities have been at the forefront of sustainability efforts, with dedicated personnel and strong support from the private sector driving progress.



### **Leadership from Business**

Businesses are eager to engage with local schools for volunteer opportunities, to support team members with school-aged children, and to enhance their reputations in community.

The Forum is collaborating with the Michigan Community Service Commission to develop a program that would embed campus sustainability coordinators in K-12 schools. We need your input!