

## Appreciation Corner

Each building has prepared an energy plan for the upcoming school year. The plans outline strategies to help the district save on energy consumption and costs. It is important to work together to brainstorm solutions. This month, appreciation is given to everyone for their energy plans.

At the beginning of each summer, the custodial staff goes through each building to unplug and turn off unused power-using devices. This helps to reduce the district energy use during the summer months. Many thanks to the custodial staff.

Are you bringing your "Green to Work"? Send us information about who, what, where, when and how so we can share it in the Appreciation Corner.

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## Did You Know?

- The annual energy bill to run America's primary and secondary schools is a staggering \$6 billion — more than is spent on textbooks and computers combined.
- The least efficient schools use three times more energy than the best energy performers.
- Top performing ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup>-labeled schools cost 40 cents per square foot less to operate than the average performers.

Source: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)



# Des Moines Public Schools Saves \$794,000 in Energy Costs

2008-09 Fiscal Year Compared to 2007-08 Fiscal Year

There are many contributing factors to the financial savings the district has achieved in reducing energy costs. While the district doesn't have control over the price of natural gas, there are other factors the district does control. With that in mind, consider this: even with Hillis, Stowe and Samuelson reopening for the 2008-09 school year, which added 52,948 square feet, the district was still able to reduce consumption by 34,280,000 kBtu.

- Natural gas prices have decreased an average of 17 percent in the last year, which accounted for \$387,680 of the actual savings.
- Energy efficiency and conservation strategies contributed to the remaining savings. Strategies include:
  - **Efficient lighting** — incandescent light bulbs have been replaced by compact fluorescent lights
  - **Set points** — keeping thermostats set at a constant temperature
  - **Improve energy controls** — CO<sub>2</sub> sensors reduce outside ventilation rates when spaces are not occupied
  - **Better operating procedures** — utilize day/night controls
  - **Energy management procedures** — computers are shut down overnight and on weekends
  - **Reduction in personal convenience appliances**
  - **Changing behaviors** — reducing consumption by turning off lights when we leaving a room
  - **Energy-efficient projects**
  - **Individual school energy plans** — all schools submitted energy plans outlining steps to reduce energy consumption

Visit [www.dmps.k12.ia.us](http://www.dmps.k12.ia.us) for more details about the district's energy mission and strategies. You can also view individual building energy performances.



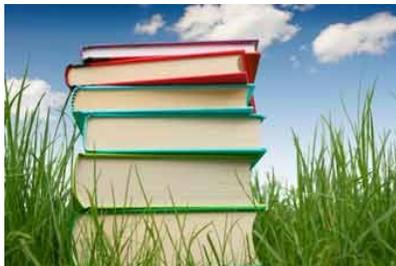
Not only did the district save financially, we also are helping our environment. By using less energy, we release fewer greenhouse gases or less CO<sub>2</sub> into the air. The district produced 5,201 metric tons less CO<sub>2</sub>. That is the equivalent of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 983 passenger vehicles or from 473 homes for one year.

"The decisions we make today will influence the energy future of the world."

Source: unknown author, 2009 ASHRAE Region VI Chapter Regional Conference



# Back to School



The Des Moines Public Schools' energy mission is to decrease the district's overall consumption through education, equipment upgrades and responsible energy use. Improving the energy efficiency of the places where we work, play and learn helps save energy, save money and fights global warming. One method of measuring energy use is through the ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager. The Portfolio Manager compares our buildings to similar buildings across the U.S. on the Commercial Building Energy Consumption Survey conducted by the Department of Energy Information Administration. According to the survey, the national average for energy consumption in an education building is 83 kBtu per square foot. This issue we have compared how each building performed during the 2008-09 school year compared to the 2007-08 school year. The district's plan is to continue energy conservation and energy-efficiency strategies during this school year and improve the health of each building's performance by 10 percent or better.

Are you looking for fun ways to teach kids about energy? Visit the new ENERGY STAR® kids Web site!



To learn what you can do at work visit  
**"Bring your green to work with ENERGY STAR®."**

Energy-related questions? Please e-mail  
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# ENERGY REPORT CARD

Continued

## ANNUAL SITE ENERGY USAGE REPORT

July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

(measured in kBtu/sq ft)

Ranked Lowest to Highest Energy User

Site	% Chg as compared to '07-'08	kBtu/SqFt	Site	% Chg as compared to '07-'08	kBtu/SqFt
Stowe*		24	Mitchell	-28%	65
Hillis*		25	Downtown School	1%	66
Morris	-16%	26	Central Academy*		67
Perkins	-6%	28	Mann	14%	69
Windsor	16%	28	Cowles	-17%	70
South Union	-3%	29	River Woods	-18%	70
Greenwood	-7%	30	Welcome Center	-5%	72
Brubaker	-7%	33	Moulton	-18%	75
Hanawalt	-11%	34	Harding	0%	76
Carver	2%	35	Jackson	-16%	76
Samuelson*		35	Kurtz	-14%	76
Goodrell	8%	36	Edmunds	-4%	77
Oak Park	-10%	38	Lincoln	-13%	77
Weeks	-10%	42	East	-10%	77
Cattell	-11%	43	Moore	-10%	78
Callanan	-14%	43	Walnut Street	-2%	78
Garton	-19%	43	Hoover/Meredith	-6%	80
Merrill	-5%	47	Hiatt	-1%	82
Willard	-8%	49	Central Campus	-5%	84
Facility Mgmt	-27%	51	Lovejoy	-2%	85
Wright	6%	53	Hoyt	-8%	86
Pleasant Hill	-4%	54	Madison	-1%	87
McKinley	-17%	55	River Plaza	11%	89
Aviation Lab	-4%	57	McCombs		
Hubbell	-37%	57	Greenhouse	-25%	91
Findley	-14%	57	Stuebaker	-1%	93
Howe	-8%	59	Van Meter	-14%	102
Phillips	-17%	59	Brody	-11%	103
Capitol View	-5%	60	Park Ave	-8%	104
Casady	-17%	60	Roosevelt	-9%	108
Monroe	-13%	61	North	7%	116
Walker St**		62	Smouse	-1%	126
Jefferson	0%	64	McCombs	-6%	127
			Wakonda	-3%	134

\*Buildings under construction prior year

\*\*Building was unoccupied prior year

Buildings performing over the national average are shown in red