

Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency

Maine School Administrative District 17



Since 2005, **Maine School Administrative District 17** (located in Oxford County, Maine) has partnered with Efficiency Maine to build a new high performance elementary school and to make energy efficiency investments in its eight existing school buildings. Efficiency Maine's Business Program and High Performance Schools Program provided technical assistance and financial incentives to support these ambitious projects.

"With a fixed budget as in a school system, we must do everything we can do to bring costs down. We want to pay for education, not energy." David Marshall, Facilities Director.

The district has installed high efficiency lighting, lighting controls such as occupancy sensors, and demand control ventilation systems in existing schools and received \$118,000 from Efficiency Maine for design assistance and to offset equipment costs. In addition to saving energy, teachers across the school system report that students can read more easily with the new lighting.

Daylight harvesting strategies at the new Paris Elementary School bring in abundant natural light, which in recent studies has been associated with improved student test scores and reduced absenteeism. Efficiency Maine provided \$120,000 to support the construction of the new school.

The efficiency upgrades in the district's existing school buildings have not only improved the learning and working environment, they have reduced annual energy consumption by between 17 and 30 percent. These savings are particularly important because the district's cost per kilowatt-hour increased by 90 percent this year when a five year contract expired.

Saving energy is everyone's responsibility in MSAD #17. School board members are frequently updated on and provide feedback regarding the district's on-going energy conservation efforts. Head custodians have worked hard to learn to operate the energy management systems and students and staff throughout the school district are frequently reminded to be conscientious about energy consumption.

"Dare to Accept the Challenge" is the district's motto, and the district truly has accepted the challenge of saving energy.

The Energy Efficiency Advantage	
Total Annual Energy Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1,056,852 kWh39,161 gallons of heating oil17-30% reduction in energy consumption
Total Annual Cost Savings	\$247,942
Total Customer Investment	\$1,784,040
Customer Payback Period	7.2 years

Maine School Administrative District 17 was honored as a Business Leader for Energy Efficiency by Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) at the 2007 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit. For more information, please visit www.neep.org/conference/2007/index.html.



NEEP is a regional non-profit organization whose mission is to promote energy efficiency in homes, buildings and industry in the Northeast U.S.

NEEP coordinates programs and policies that increase the use of energy efficient products, services and practices, and that help achieve a cleaner environment and a more reliable and affordable energy system.

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