

News release



Everett Public Schools

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District's summer energy upgrades earn almost \$95,000 in rebates

Upgrades also expected to save \$41,861 in energy costs per year

Heatherwood Middle School now has more energy efficient lighting. Parking lot lights at Jackson High, Evergreen and Gateway middle schools and four district elementary schools are brighter and also more energy efficient – thanks to upgrade projects completed in the summer of 2012.

As a result of that upgrade work, the Snohomish County PUD has awarded the district \$94,534.62 in rebates. In addition to the rebates, the PUD estimates that the upgrades will reduce the district's annual electric energy costs by \$41,861 each year.

This is just the most recent example of the district's work to save energy costs having generated rebate or grant funding in addition to long-term savings. A year ago at this time, the PUD awarded the district more than [\\$298,000 for previous energy retrofit](#) projects and presented that check at a school board meeting.

Also last year, the district was [awarded \\$2.2 million](#) in state energy grants for work detailed in the 2011 district energy report. The combined cost savings for the work completed which earned these state grants is expected to save taxpayers \$215,000 per year from the district's general fund.

"The costs to heat and light our communities' schools comes from the general fund – the same fund that pays for teachers and educational programs," commented Superintendent Gary Cohn. "When we strategically make energy upgrades that save general fund dollars, we are saving classroom dollars. This attention to alternative resources is among the strategies identified in our strategic plan, which the community helped the board establish in 2010."

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