

News release



Everett Public Schools

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Everett schools win third energy grant of the year

From the three 2010 OSPI/Commerce Department grants, Everett wins more than \$1 million for cost saving projects

The third and final round of the 2010 K-12 energy efficiency grants winners was announced mid-November by Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn.

For the third time this year, Everett Public Schools was on the winners' list – this time bringing home \$818,000 to make school lighting systems more efficient and to upgrade energy control systems on school heating and cooling systems. Eight of the district's 17 elementary schools, two of its five middle schools and all four high schools will benefit from this latest grant.

Taxpayers benefit too. "We expect that the electric bill savings from the energy projects made possible by these grants will be at least \$93,000 per year," said district Facilities & Planning Director Hal Beumel. "We also calculate that the district will receive \$233,250 in local utility rebates from this work."

Part of the leverage that has so successfully helped Everett Public Schools be on the energy grant winners' list three times in a row is past voter support for school improvement projects. The 2010 Educational Program and Operations levy included some funding to do some of the work outlined in the grant applications. That assured voter approved funding weighed in the district's favor in the grant process because "... we were already committed to energy conservation projects; our community was supportive, and we could pay for some of the work ourselves. The extra grant funding makes it possible now to do even more retrofitting to save more money in the long run."

As Beumel explains, "Some of these projects were already on the books, but as a result of voter support of schools and our grant application success, schools will now have more than \$1 million of additional improvements. AND we will see more than \$90,000 in energy cost savings over time. This is a 'good thing' for our students and our taxpayers."

Background

In Round 1 of the 2010 energy grant process, the district won almost \$184,000. Many of those projects have been completed or will be by summer of 2011.

In Round 2 of the 2010 energy grant process, the district won almost \$950,000. Those funds will be largely used at Everett High School and Heatherwood Middle School.

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