

ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT

ALL WORK DONE AT NO COST TO LOCAL TAXPAYERS

As the district begins closing out the Capital Project at the elementary school and wrapping up the technology installation, a new project awaits - one that will lessen our dependency on LIPA, reduce our carbon footprint, educating our youth about environmental issues and save the district hundreds of thousands of dollars. Roughly two years ago, the Board of Education began the process of starting an Energy Performance Project that would accomplish just these goals. While difficult to imagine how all of this could be accomplished, the proof is in the numbers.

Lessening our dependency on LIPA. There will be guaranteed reductions in the district's fuel and electric bills in excess of \$180,000 each and every year with an escalator clause for 3% more in savings yearly. This component itself helps reduce the district's exposure to the ever fluctuating prices associated with energy costs during these volatile times. These savings will be attained through a variety of methods, not the least of which is updating all of the internal lighting within the buildings to a "smart" Lutron system that uses highly sensitive motion sensors and allows classroom lighting to dim when natural light is available. New doors, windows, motors, fans, energy management software, and insulation will be combined with solar arrays (generating 35Kw) will further to contribute to the yearly savings.

Reducing the district's carbon footprint. While calculations to measure the greenhouse gas emissions reduction haven't been completed, it is anticipated that the district's energy usage will be decreased by greater than 25%. This coupled by an already active recycling program throughout the district helps to send a loud and clear message to all, that the district is committed to preserving our environment and safeguarding our future: meeting environmental challenges head on.

Educating our youth about environmental issues. The environment and our relationship within it, is a topic that continues to grow in importance. This project provides real life solutions that will spark discussions among staff and students both within the classroom and home. To support this concept, a kiosk will be installed in a central location at the secondary campus which will demonstrate our savings as they accumulate.

Saving the district hundreds of thousands of dollars. In addition to the above mentioned utility savings, the district will also benefit from an increase in building aid from the state, in excess of \$114,000 dollars a year for a 15 year period. This amount is also guaranteed - same as the energy savings. While there is a cost associated with financing the project these

guaranteed savings easily offset the costs and will help the district to realize a positive cash flow each and every year.

If all these reasons aren't enough, it is important to note that the district has qualified for \$159,000 in guaranteed rebates and is actively pursuing more. When all is said and done, the project will generate savings in excess of 2 million dollars over the next 15 years, and will continue to generate savings well into the future.

