

Schools

## District Receives Rebate from LIPA, Transition Students Honored with Scholarships

Students and teams honored, multiple action items approved at Wednesday's Board of Education meeting.

By [Alyssa Melillo](#) | [Email the author](#) | June 2, 2011



As a result of replacing thousands of light bulbs in its schools under its Energy Performance Contract, the Sachem Central School district received a \$425,000 rebate check from LIPA.

At Wednesday's school board meeting held at Samoset Middle School, Kendra McQuilton, Director of Business Development for ECG Engineering, the district's consultant for the initiative, and Danny Haffel, a representative from Johnson Controls, said that it was the biggest rebate check either had ever seen given to any of the dozens of school districts they serve.

"I commend the Sachem Central School District for taking a major step towards energy efficiency and independence and reducing peak demand," said LIPA Chief Operating Officer Michael D. Hervey. "I hope this project will not only serve as a model for other schools throughout the state but also as a unique learning tool for all students who will benefit from cleaner and greener classrooms.

Sachem upgraded the lighting systems and installed occupancy-sensors in classrooms and throughout the district's buildings, replacing over 10,000 fixtures with energy-efficient high performance equipment and retrofitting approximately 17,000 fixtures. Through these improvements, it is estimated that Sachem will save up to 2,730,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year and reduce its peak electric demand by an estimated 834 kilowatts (kW). Through its participation in Efficiency Long Island, Sachem was able to offset the cost with a \$425,000 LIPA rebate.

"These substantial energy efficient upgrades are part of the Sachem School District's ongoing efforts to conserve energy, reduce operational costs, and educate our students about the importance of protecting the environment," Sachem Superintendent James Nolan said. "We thank LIPA for their technical and financial support through their efficiency programs and look forward to working with them again to make Sachem one of the most environmental-friendly schools in the state."