

GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS
Regular Board Meeting Monday June 08, 2009
District Business Office

TO: Dr. Craig Schilling

FROM: Kimberly L. Ptak

DATE: JUNE 08, 2009

RE: GREEN INITIATIVES

Over the past several years, the district has taken a proactive approach in implementing “green” initiatives whenever possible – see attached for a summary of various projects to date. Going forward, we will continue to look to areas where we can save energy and make our buildings run more efficiently. Some examples include:

- A resolution was adopted by the Board for an inter-governmental agreement to create a wind farm in southern Illinois to generate electricity for the district.
- District will look to recycle water from fields and detention areas and reuse it to water grass and landscape.
- High efficiency ventilation hoods are being explored for the kitchens at Glenbrook North and South, payback appears to be 2.5 years.
- As technology advances, we will look to replace our small activity buses with hybrid vehicles.
- When looking at HVAC systems in the future we will look to heat pumps and/or geotherm technology.
- We will continue to monitor the quality and price of recycled paper to use in our print shops.
- All carpet and windows in the buildings will eventually be replaced with our new standards.
- High efficiency faucets, toilets and showers will become the standard in all bathroom remodeling.
- Students at GBN recently submitted a proposal to create a composting site in the back field at GBN to recycle food waste.
- We will explore the possibility of recycling cafeteria grease into diesel fuel for tractors and other grounds equipment.
- We will continuously monitor the interest from staff to set up a shuttle service from the train station to promote public transportation.

GLENBROOK

is getting greener

GREEN INITIATIVES

Environmentally Friendly Actions –

Result in Almost \$500K In Savings



Glenbrook HSD 225 is proactively contributing to a greener environment in the following ways...

- An energy conservation program was established to increase staff and student awareness, including new room temperature guidelines, turning off lights and computers and consolidating building use during after hour and summer activities. These simple changes are estimated to save approximately \$90K or 5% of our budget per year.
- As part of the technology plan, all staff received laptops which contribute to energy savings.
- We entered into a contract to purchase more environmentally friendly cleaning supplies.
- We purchased hybrid cars for the Glenbrook driver education program. The hybrids average 60 miles per gallon and produce 97% less hydrocarbon emissions than the average car.
- We established a state recognized indoor air quality committee. The group meets quarterly. They regularly collect indoor air samples to monitor quality.
- A day lighting system is used to naturally light the facility to save money and create a better learning environment.

GREEN CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Building Greener Schools

When planning referendum facility improvement projects, the district took every opportunity to use modern technology and green components. Here are some examples:

- New HVAC systems have variable speed drives for more efficient climate control.
- All electrical work includes lighting control sensors and more energy efficient lighting sources.
- New high-performance carpeting prevents air pollutants and allergens from getting trapped in the fibers.
- The terrazzo floors and walls in the GBN lobby are made from 100% recycled, no maintenance material.
- New windows are tinted and more energy efficient.
- Solar panels will heat the pools in the new GBS natatorium; grant money will fund this project. Energy savings is estimated at \$20K per year.
- Modular boilers were installed at GBS which operate at 88% efficiency and will save an estimated \$20K per year.
- An interactive kiosk was added to the lobby to educate users on green initiatives at GBN. A similar kiosk will be installed at GBS this summer.

ENERGY PROCUREMENT

Glenbrook is partnering with a third-party energy supplier. As a result, we expect to save 40% on electricity and 15% on natural gas costs over the next three years. Total savings is about \$350K.



KIDS CORNER

Students Show a Green Commitment

Students at Glenbrook North and South are demonstrating their commitment to the district's green philosophy. Two student clubs (Environmental Club at GBN and Project Earth at GBS) have been instrumental in rolling out a comprehensive district-wide recycling program. Project Earth students at GBS have spent time talking to each class to promote recycling throughout the schools; the Environmental Club at GBN plans to do the same this fall. Students have also applied for green initiative grants and participated in "Go Green Week" which was held at GBN to promote green efforts during lunch periods and after school.

The students' good work continues in the cafeteria. The GBN and GBS student food committees will be working this fall to educate fellow students and faculty members on the cafeteria recycling process, in an effort to reduce the amount of trash that ends up in landfills.

Quest, our district food service vendor, has also been working to convert current food packaging materials to those that can be more easily recycled.