PHOTOS



GCCISD energy plan saving big bucks

In 30 months, Goose Creek CISD saved more than \$1.4 million in electrical costs by monitoring electrical consumption, adjusting facility operating parameters, and implementing various conservation measures to reduce electrical demand in district

The financial savings is approximately equivalent to the salary and pension benefits of 24 first-year teachers with a bachelor's degree.

Moreover, the District has reduced its carbon footprint by 1,487 metric tons of CO2 that is equivalent to eliminating 292 passenger vehicles, 3,458 barrels of oil consumed, and the energy usage of 185 homes.

In 2009, Goose Creek CISD partnered with Automated Logic to implement the "CARE for Energy" program to help manage electricity costs. CARE for Energy is a program that primarily focuses on energy savings, but also involves total facility operational and maintenance efficiency.

"With such a large district, energy consumption becomes a high priority when looking for ways to increase District efficiency and decrease the annual utility budget," said Goose Creek CISD Superintendent Dr. Salvador Cavazos. "Goose Creek CISD and its administration, faculty and staff remain committed to being good stewards of taxpayer funds.'

With the success of this initiative, Goose Creek CISD is in the process of broadening its energy conservation program and has aspirations to reinvest some of the savings to further reduce facility-operating expenses.

Goose Creek CISD's CARE energy program tracks 28 facilities with advanced metering to be completed in six of the buildings by the end of the year.

The program identifies air conditioning and heating equipment that are not running efficiently or running with the building unoccupied.

The District continues to upgrade its lighting systems and test new cooling and heating strategies to deliver comfortable buildings more efficiently.

In 2009, the Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees approved a five-year contract for CARE services across the District.

In the first year, the initial investment of \$150,000 returned a net savings of \$546,454. Year to date savings have risen to \$1,403,464 on an investment of \$300,000.

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