# LET'S SAVE ENERGY School Energy Efficiency News

KSBA-SEMP ... Cultivating energy efficiency, best practices in Kentucky school districts

## Celebrating ENERGY STAR® Schools

April 2016

The ENERGY STAR brand has been around since 1992. Its roots were established in the National Energy Conservation Policy Act of 1978. This program grew in spurts and sputters over the years, generally in relation to the price of energy. With low energy prices, people didn't focus on energy costs.

Electric prices in Kentucky historically were among the lowest in the nation, influenced by availability of coal. With recent changes in environmental regulations, however, those costs are steadily increasing, with a corresponding increased focus on rising costs.

An ENERGY STAR Labeled School means the building is operating as efficiently as the top 25 percent of K-12 schools in the nation. The energy data is verified by a professional engineer or reg-

istered architect and the labeling is evidence that taxpayer monies are being used effectively.

The Energy Utilization Index in a typical ENERGY STAR Labeled School is 40-50 kBtu/sf. Nationwide, an average school has an index of 73 kBtu/ sf. For a typical middle school of 100,000 square feet, the difference between operating at 73Kbtu/ sf to less than 50Kbtu/sf **represents a savings of \$58,000 annually**. That \$58,000 is money that can now be spent for student needs. That is why SEMP has coined our phrase for energy efficiency, "Dollars for Students, Not Energy."

School energy management was "just a thought" in 2004 when some of the early statewide energy task forces began. In 2006, there were only eight ENERGY STAR Labeled schools. In early 2010, that number had grown to 68.

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Districts with 100 percent ENERGY STAR school buildings received additional recognition during KSBA's recent annual conference. District representatives gathered above are, from left, Tony Spence (Pendleton County), Scott Howard (Butler County), Kim Chevalier (Walton-Verona Independent), Lauren Hughes (Robertson County), Donna Major (Burgin Independent), Kevin Kidwell (Scott County), and Jim Palm (Southgate Independent). Districts achieving that honor but whose representatives were not present for picture are Corbin Independent, Elliott County and Frankfort Independent.



#### Districts recognized at KSBA Annual Conference for energy-efficiency efforts

<sup>11</sup> 27 percent of eligible Kentucky schools rated as ENERGY STAR

Kentucky is well above the national average when it comes to ENERGY STAR Labeled K-12 school buildings. Twenty-seven percent of eligible school buildings in Kentucky carry the ENERGY STAR designation, compared with the national average of 9 percent for K-12 buildings.

Eligibility for the ENERGY STAR designation applies to K-12 buildings even though other buildings may be owned by the school district. Kentucky currently has 327 ENERGY STAR labeled school buildings.

During the recent 2016 KSBA Annual Conference board members and superintendents with at least one ENERGY STAR Labeled School were recognized with special name tag ribbons. Additional recognition was given to districts with ENERGY STAR ratings for 100 percent of their school buildings. Those districts are:

Anderson County Schools **Barren County Schools** Bellevue Independent Schools Boone County Schools **Bourbon County Schools** Bowling Green Independent Schools Boyd County Schools **Boyle County Schools Bracken County Schools Bullitt County Schools** Burgin Independent Schools Butler County Schools Calloway County Schools Campbell County Schools Carroll County Schools Casey County Schools **Christian County Schools Clark County Schools** Corbin Independent Schools Crittenden County Schools Danville Independent Schools **Daviess County Schools** Elliott County Schools **Estill County Schools** Fayette County Schools Fleming County Schools Floyd County Schools KFrankfort Independent Schools Franklin County Schools Gallatin County Schools Grant County Schools Grayson County Schools **Greenup County Schools** Hardin County Schools Harlan County Schools Henry County Schools **Hopkins County Schools** 

Jefferson County Schools Jessamine County Schools Kenton County Schools **Knox County Schools** Laurel County Schools Lawrence County Schools Letcher County Schools Lincoln County Schools Logan County Schools Madison County Schools Magoffin County Schools Marion County Schools Marshall County Schools Mason County Schools Mayfield Independent Schools Meade County Schools Mercer County Schools Morgan County Schools Murray Independent Schools **Nelson County Schools Ohio County Schools Oldham County Schools Owen County Schools** Pendleton County Schools Robertson County Schools **Rockcastle County Schools Rowan County Schools** Russell Independent Schools Scott County Schools Shelby County Schools Simpson County Schools Southgate Independent Schools **Trimble County Schools** Walton Verona Independent Schools Warren County Schools Webster County Schools Williamstown Independent Schools Woodford County Schools

#### Kentucky ENERGY STAR Schools (continued from page one)



Since 2010, districts have developed and implemented energy management plans that have led to over \$68 million in avoided energy costs through June 2015 and, as of April 1, 2016, 327 ENERGY STAR Labeled Schools moving Kentucky past New York into the top ten nationally.

School board decisions around energy have created some significant milestones:

Recognitions

- August 2011 100<sup>th</sup> ENERGY STAR Labeled School Millbrooke Elementary, Christian County Schools by First Lady Jane Beshear
- May 2012 Twelve Highly-Rated ENERGY STAR Schools (rating between 95-100) by Lieutenant Governor Abramson
- April 2013 200<sup>th</sup> ENERGY STAR Labeled School Caneyville Elementary, Grayson County Schools by First Lady Jane Beshear
- December 2015 Announcement of 300<sup>th</sup> ENERGY STAR Labeled School Southside Elementary School, Shelby County Schools

With tight budgets and rising utility costs, it is critical to implement energy efficiency strategies. Using resources from the ENERGY STAR program provides opportunities to recognize effective use of taxpayer monies, meaning there are more "*Dollars for Students, Not Energy.*"

### ENERGY STAR Recognitions throughout Kentucky



November, 2015

Dishman-McGinnis Elementary—Bowling Green Independent Schools Facilities Director Rickey Shive, board member Michael Bishop, Former Supt. Joe Tinius, State Rep. Jim DeCesare, board member Christine Dressler, Tim Geegan (Alliance), Ron Murrell (RossTarrant), Matt Wade and Jonathan Stewart (CMTA), Principal Michael Wix, and Supt. Gary Fields



November, 2015 West Irvine Intermediate—Estill Co Schools L-R, Superintendent Jeff Saylor, board members Jon Bicknell, Chair Robbie Starling and Patty Hood, with Asst. Principal Toni-Garrett Hall

#### **ENERGY STAR** Recognitions

#### Kentucky ENERGY STAR Facts

(as of April 1, 2016)

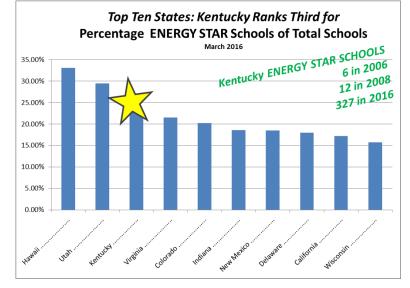
- 327 ENERGY STAR Schools
- 26 million sq. ft. ENERGY STAR rated
- 27% KY public schools are ENERGY STAR
- Contributed to over \$80 million saved
- Third in nation for percentage
- Top-ten in nation with actual numbers



February 2016 100% ENERGY STAR Butler County Schools. L-R, Superintendent Scott Howard, board members Debbie Hammers, Amy Hood, Charles Price, and Delbert Johnson



February 2016 100% ENERGY STAR Corbin Independent Schools. L-R, Board members Angela Morris, Kim Croley, Carcille Burchette, and Superintendent David Cox



February 2016 100% ENERGY STAR Robertson County Schools L-R, Superintendent Sanford Holbrook and board members Chassica Sutton, Lauren Hughes, Angie Knarr, Vice Chair Marsha Jones, and Chair, Dr. John Burns





March 2016 Cane Ridge Elementary—Bourbon County Schools. L-R, KSBA rep Martha Casher, board member Kandice Wells, Superintendent Amy Baker, Principal Dana Hill and State Rep. Sannie Overly, stand with Cane Ridge students