

What's the Buzz?

Did you know that the trash you throw away leads to emissions of greenhouse gases? "Each pound of trash you throw away will emit approximately 0.94 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent in the form of methane, and the average person in the U.S. throws away over 1,130 pounds of waste per year. For every person in the U.S., about 1,060 pounds of CO₂ equivalent comes from the garbage we throw out every year."

Source: www.epa.gov

Last year DMPS recycled 139 tons of mixed paper and 46 tons of cardboard! By not throwing away about 37,000 lbs of paper and cardboard, DMPS staff and students reduced CO₂ emissions by 34,780 lbs.

Effective July 1, Des Moines Public Schools has contracted with Waste Management to increase recycling. You will be able to participate in single stream recycling just like at home. Watch for more details in next month's Energy Report Card!



Recognized by the U.S. EPA for the superior energy management of our schools

2010

Back to school with ENERGY STAR®

"The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has some energy-saving tips to help you and your family prepare for the school year." Click this link or visit www.energystar.com for ideas to power down, unplug and more.

Source: www.energystar.gov



**CHANGE THE WORLD,
START WITH ENERGY STAR**
Take the ENERGY STAR Pledge



Click the image or visit www.energystar.gov to take the pledge.

ENERGY REPORT CARD

August 2010

Des Moines Public Schools

Saves \$624,000 in Avoided Energy Costs

2009-10 Fiscal Year Compared to 2008-09 Fiscal Year

There are many contributing factors to the financial savings the district has achieved in avoided energy costs. While the district doesn't have control over the price of natural gas, we can monitor our accounts to ensure we are charged the appropriate rate. The average weather was not statistically different when comparing fiscal year 2009-10 to fiscal year 2008-09. Des Moines Public School District has implemented energy conservation strategies and actions to optimize our limited resources.

- Energy conservation strategies by students and staff include:
 - Changing behaviors by turning off lights when the room is unoccupied or natural lighting is sufficient.
 - Improving energy management procedures by reducing plug loads. Turning off and unplugging computers and monitors, TVs, DVD/VCR players and radios when not in use.
 - Removing or reducing the number of convenience appliances such as microwaves, refrigerators and coffee makers.
 - Utilizing day/night controls.
- Energy efficiency improvements include:
 - Gym lighting retrofits at Callanan, Cattell, Cowles, East, Edmunds, Hoyt, Jefferson, Lovejoy, McCombs, Monroe, Phillips, Pleasant Hill, Van Meter and Wright.
 - Lighting upgrades at Moore, McKee, Jackson, Roosevelt & Central Campus.
 - Heating and ventilation controls at Hoover, Moore and McKee.
 - Boiler and steam trap improvements at Moulton.
 - Geothermal heating and cooling at Jackson and Roosevelt.
 - Energy efficient heating and cooling at Central Campus.
 - Window replacements at Jackson, Roosevelt and Central Campus.
 - Retro commissioning at McKee.

Visit www.dmps.k12.ia.us for more details about the district's energy mission and strategies. You can also view individual building energy performances.

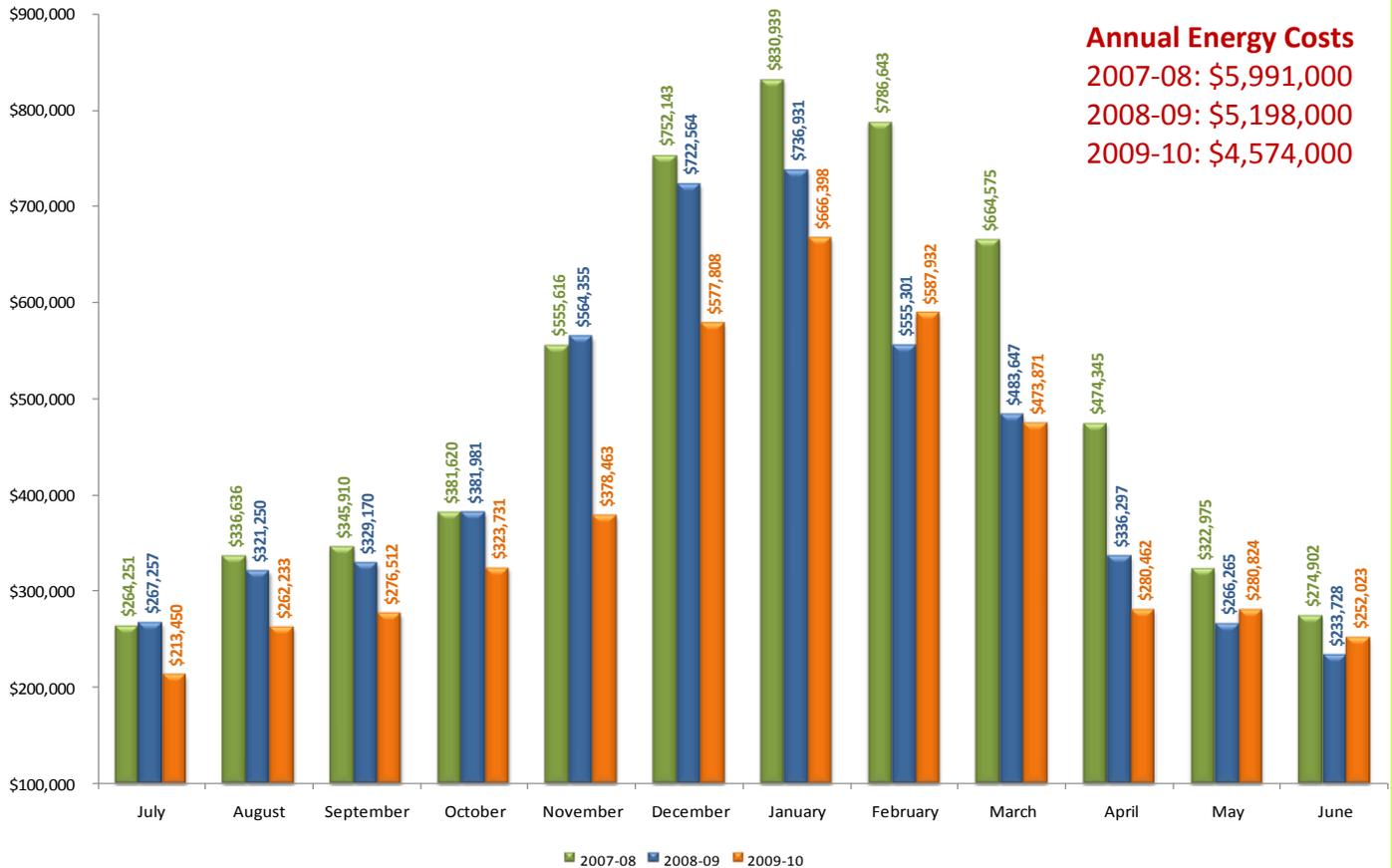
Environmental Impact

DMPS has decreased its energy consumption by 25,688 million British thermal units (mBtu) this year compared to the previous year. The district's commitment to decrease our overall energy consumption through education, equipment upgrades and responsible energy use not only saves money, but also reduces the negative impact on our environment. The district produced 6,588,000 lbs less of CO₂ fiscal year 2009-10 compared to fiscal year 2008-09. That is the equivalent of CO₂ emissions from 336,138 gallons of gasoline or from 571 passenger vehicles.



ENERGY REPORT CARD

Des Moines Public Schools' Saved \$1.4 Million in Avoided Energy Costs Since 2007-08 Fiscal Year



Summer Projects

2010-11 Students First Major Projects at Howe, Madison, Mitchell, Park Avenue and Wright include:

- Electrical system upgrades, including energy efficient lighting upgrades.
- Exterior door and window replacements
- Air conditioning for the classrooms utilizing geothermal.
- Ventilation improvements.



Old windows at Howe.



New windows at Howe.



25 Schools in the district have geothermal heating and cooling systems

Geothermal Systems capture the heat from beneath the Earth's surface and can use 25 to 50 percent less energy than a traditional heating and cooling system. In many cases we can add cooling to an existing building at a lesser utility cost than before system change because of the efficiency of geothermal.



Drilling for new geothermal wells at Madison.

Visit www.dmps.k12.ia.us for more details of the district's energy mission and building performance.

Tell us about it! Do you want to share your ideas for saving energy or helping our environment? Or want to let us know about your projects? E-mail lisa.simpson@dmps.k12.ia.us.

