



Westwood Heights Schools

Flint, MI

The Challenge: Westwood Heights Schools face high poverty and lingering student health effects stemming from lead in the city's water supply.

Built in the 1960's, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and lighting systems for Michael Hamady Middle & High School had become inefficient and increasingly costly to repair. Lighting quality was inconsistent across the campus, and maintenance staff had resorted to finding spare parts on eBay due to lack of availability.

The Solution: To improve the wellbeing of their students and the planet, Westwood Heights implemented a five-year energy efficiency plan for their facilities. The majority of upgrades will occur at the district's Michael Hamady Middle & High School.

The district partnered with SitelogIQ (formerly Unesco) to focus on maximizing energy savings. SitelogIQ installed new HVAC equipment, LED lighting and controls.

The Result: The upgrades are saving energy and money for the district, while improving the learning environment for students and teachers and protecting Michigan's natural resources.

Despite the obstacles the facility faced, Westwood Heights Schools are experiencing a resurgence. The district has nearly doubled its student population, from 850 students in 2012-2013 to over 1,600

Project Details

- **Upgrades:**
 - Lighting and controls
 - HVAC
- **Overall Incentive:** \$197,796
- **Annual Electric Savings:** 578,825 kWh
- **Annual Natural Gas Savings:** 2,789 Mcf
- **Annual Cost Savings:** \$82,199

Westwood Heights Superintendent, Peter Toal has some advice for other schools considering efficiency updates:

“Don’t delay. The savings are immediate, and the cost savings are only half the story. It’s reduced maintenance, it’s reduced operating expenses, it’s better air quality, better room comfort. Especially older school districts, they should all be doing these projects.”

Energy Savings in Action:

Westwood Heights Schools’ contribution to energy efficiency excellence made them eligible for the annual Consumers Energy Project of the Year competition. The schools’ ingenuity, innovation and dedication to creating an energy efficient environment that lowered energy costs and saved thousands of dollars, led them to first place in the Large Commercial category, statewide recognition and a \$15,000 award.



We're here to help

The biggest challenge in reducing energy use in your business is knowing where to start. Consumers Energy is here to help.

The Business Energy Efficiency team will guide you every step of the way to provide a simplified, hassle-free process.

Have you asked for your rebate?

Visit ConsumersEnergy.com/schoolcs to fill out a rebate application or call **888-674-2770** to learn more.