

SEE FACT SHEET

Program Description

Schools for Energy Efficiency® (SEE) is a program for K-12 schools to save energy and money by changing behavior throughout the district. SEE provides a multi-year plan with strategies for efficient operations, energy awareness materials for staff and students, training, and utility tracking for immediate and sustainable savings.



Program Awards



2008 MN Governor's Award for Excellence in Waste and Pollution Prevention

Award from the *Minnesota Pollution Control Agency* and Governor *Tim Pawlenty* honoring superior environmental achievement by Minnesota non-profit organizations, businesses, and private institutions for programs or projects that benefit the environment by reducing or eliminating wastes and pollutants at the source.

2008 Inspiring Efficiency Education Award

Award from the *Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance* who selected the SEE Program because of its outstanding results in their local campaign to increase school's knowledge and action on energy efficiency.

2007 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year – Service and Product Provider

National award from the *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* to recognize leading companies and organizations for outstanding contributions to environmental protection and energy efficiency through partnerships with ENERGY STAR.

2004 Innovation in Energy Efficiency

National award from the *U.S. Department of Energy* to honor organizations that have excelled in their contributions to energy efficiency and renewable energy in the state and community network.

Program Results

- Annual energy savings of 10-25 percent.
- Participating schools have avoided more than **\$17 million** in energy costs in only 5 years.
- Nearly 600 schools have participated in from the states Minnesota, New Jersey, and Louisiana.
- SEE school districts lead the nation with **17 ENERGY STAR Leader awards** for continuous improvement in energy efficiency district-wide - only 78 districts in the nation have received this award.
- Over 100 school facilities in the program qualify for ENERGY STAR Labels ranking the facility in the **top 25 percent in the nation** for efficient operations.
- Environmental impact: **reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 117,685 metric tons of CO₂**. This is equivalent to the annual emissions of 21,554 passenger vehicles or emissions from the electricity use of 16,323 homes for a year.



Why Saving Energy is Important for Schools

- **Reduces energy waste.** 25% of energy consumed in schools is not used efficiently.
- **Saves money.** Annual energy costs are \$250 per student on average nationally and energy is a major source of avoidable spending.
- **Shows responsibility to tax payers.** Efficient operations use taxpayer money wisely and redirect money towards educational needs.
- **Preserves the environment.** 80% of greenhouse gas emissions are from the production, distribution, and disposal of energy. Saving energy reduces pollution and the use of nonrenewable resources.
- **Educates students.** Instilling wise energy habits in students creates lifelong conservationists and teaches them to care about the impact of their actions.
- **Improves the learning environment.** There is a positive correlation between the physical condition of the learning environment and student performance. Many energy efficient practices help create better lighting, temperature control, acoustics and air quality.

**(statistics source: U.S. Department of Energy)*

Program Background

The SEE program was developed in 2002 by Hallberg Engineering, Inc. of White Bear Lake, MN, a mechanical and electrical engineering firm with more than 25 years experience serving Minnesota school districts. SEE was created in response to schools' need for a flexible, self-implemented plan to realize immediate savings in energy use as well as develop a long-term culture of energy efficiency. SEE is now a sister company operating as Energy Efficiency Programs, Inc. to allow for continued growth and development.

The SEE program also has developed a strategic partnership with ENERGY STAR®. ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy helping us all save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. Visit the ENERGY STAR web site at www.energystar.gov.

Contact Information

Interested School District Inquiries: info@seeprograms.com or (651) 783-5630.

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Active School District Members

- Austin ISD 492*
- Buffalo/Hanover/Montrose ISD 877*
- Cambridge/Isanti ISD 911*
- Columbia Heights ISD 13*
- Mahtomedi ISD 832*
- St Cloud ISD 742*
- South Washington County ISD 833*
- Rosemount/Apple Valley/Eagan ISD 196*
- Osseo ISD 279
- Mounds View ISD 621*
- Farmington ISD 192
- Inver Grove Heights ISD 199
- Crosby-Ironton ISD 182*
- Hastings ISD 200
- Northeast Metro 916 Intermediate District
- East Metro Integrated District
- Northfield ISD 659
- Faribault ISD 656
- North Branch ISD 138
- Lakeville ISD 194
- Prior Lake ISD 719
- Bridgewater-Raritan, NJ*
- Middlesex Regional Education Services Commission, NJ
- Somerset Hills School District, NJ
- Bettendorf, IA

**Energy Star Leader Award Recipients*