



**West Washington County School District**  
Okawville, IL

## SCHOOL DISTRICT ROCKETTS TO ENERGY SAVINGS

Nestled in the village of Okawville in southern Illinois, the West Washington County School District occupies a 37,000-square-foot campus, newly completed in 2013. It's a modern K-12 school building constructed around a lovingly restored, 1950s-era gymnasium where generations of "Rockets" athletes have chased victory — an ideal blend of historic and contemporary. But after five years in the building, school administrators grew concerned about problems with the HVAC system.

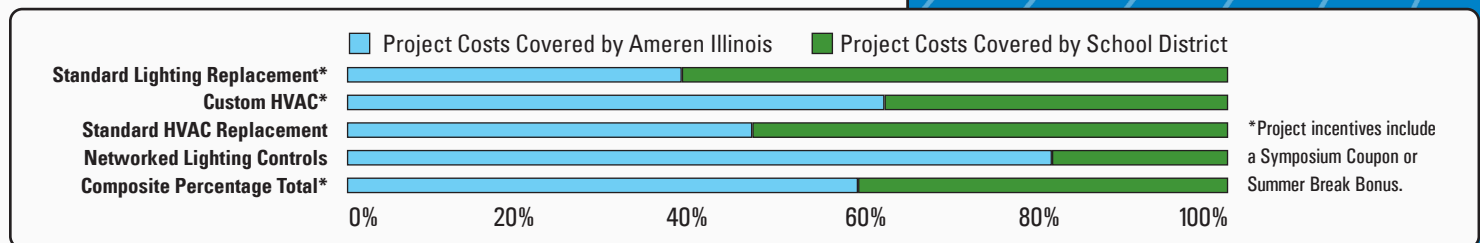
Utilizing financial incentives from the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program, the district conducted a Retro Commissioning survey to pinpoint these issues and identify potential solutions. The result was an incentivized Custom project to properly balance and regulate the building's heating and cooling systems.

Additional projects were later identified and completed, including:

- Replacing the building's gas boilers with more efficient units.
- Weatherization measures to reduce outside air encroachment around doorways and other building envelope leakage points.
- Updating old lighting fixtures to modern LEDs, utilizing standard incentives as well as point-of-sale discounts through the Instant Incentives program.
- Installing Networked Lighting Controls across campus — taking energy savings to a whole new level.

Through these measures, the West Washington County School District has improved the comfort of students, faculty and staff, creating a comfortable learning environment while reducing their monthly electric and gas bills. What they have accomplished in a few short years — with the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program as their trusted partner — is nothing short of incredible.

### Project Cost Breakdown



**ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM**



### PROJECTS AT A GLANCE

#### Problems

- HVAC regulation issues
- Early obsolescence of boiler equipment
- Outdated lighting technologies
- Air drafts and leaks throughout building envelope

#### Solutions

- State-of-the-art HVAC system controls
- Upgraded gas boilers
- Updated LED lighting and control system
- Weatherization measures



**"Most of the school's energy efficiency projects would not have been possible without incentives from the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program. Every time they come and touch something, we save money."**

— Keith Senior, Superintendent, West Washington County School District



# REAL RESULTS

West Washington County School District: 2019-2024

Total incentives received from Ameren Illinois since 2019:

**\$306,435**

Estimated annual energy savings:

**⚡ 537,951 kWh**

**🔥 43,573 Therms**

Incentive Type	Incentive Amount	Estimated Annual kWh Savings	Estimated Annual Therm Savings
Custom Incentives	\$140,882	348,890	21,028
HVAC	\$109,300	–	21,028
Lighting	\$28,227	160,260	–
Weatherization	\$25,525	28,801	1,517
Retro Commissioning*	\$2,500	–	–
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$306,435</b>	<b>537,951</b>	<b>43,573</b>

\*Savings realized in other projects.

## Implementing HVAC Enhancements

Whether simple upgrades or whole system replacements, HVAC enhancements can help manage energy usage, reduce costs and maintenance time, and increase comfort for building occupants. Upgrading inefficient equipment to ENERGY STAR® certified models can save businesses up to 20 percent on heating and cooling costs.

## Leveraging Bonus Incentives

The West Washington County School District took advantage of bonus incentives offered by the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program — on top of the Program’s base project incentives — to make energy-saving upgrades even more affordable.

These projects were identified after receiving their **Public School Carbon-Free Assessment** report. This report identifies ways that K-12 public schools can reach the state goal of carbon-free energy usage by 2030 by assessing six key areas, including:

- Energy efficiency savings opportunities
- Solar energy potential
- Mechanical insulation and building envelope
- Space and water heating electrification
- School transportation electrification
- Pursuing WELL Health and Safety Rating

To learn more and enroll your school, visit [AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/PSCFA](https://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/PSCFA).

## Are You Ready to Start Saving?

Request a FREE Energy Consultation to take the next step in your energy efficiency journey. Call **1.866.800.0747** or visit [AmerenIllinoisSavings.com](https://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com) for more information.

Financial incentives vary by project and are determined based on Program offerings and estimated energy savings.



**Retro Commissioning** is the process of fine-tuning building systems to ensure a building is running at its optimal performance. Incentives for large facilities can cover up to 90 percent of the discovery phase for projects with a simple payback period of less than one year. Large facilities can expect energy savings of 15-30 percent as a result.



**LED lights can reduce energy use by up to 44 percent compared to traditional lighting options\*** — and their long life translates to far less maintenance. Networked Lighting Controls take energy savings even further, using sensors, network interfaces and controllers to control lighting in specific areas.

\*University of Michigan study, 2023



**Weatherization is a simple, low-cost way to save on your energy bill** — and the benefits can be seen immediately. Financial incentives are available for weather stripping, duct sealing and insulation, air sealing around windows and doors, and other measures.



**Through the Custom offering, financial incentives are available for energy-saving projects unique to your facility** — including large HVAC projects, improved building automation, new construction and more. Incentives are based on energy reduction. Pre-approval is required for all custom projects.

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