

# COOL SCHOOLS=SMART SAVINGS

## HOW TO GET STARTED

- Review your audit reports
- Link energy efficiency projects to your district's facility management plans
- Contact Cool Schools for assistance and resources

503.373.0742 (*help desk*)  
cool.schools@odoe.state.or.us

## COOL SCHOOLS SUMMER 2012 TIMELINE:

- Low-cost financing is available.
- For early consideration, submit loan documents by early April; final submission deadline is May 31, 2012.

*If your school has not completed an energy audit, contact the Oregon Department of Energy for more information about starting the process.*

Schools are the heart of communities, connecting our present to the future through education. The most effective learning and teaching happens in comfortable, well-lit buildings. Schools spend more on energy than any other expense except personnel. U.S. Department of Energy studies show that schools can reduce energy expenses by up to 20 percent just by effectively managing and operating their physical plants.

Since 2002, the Oregon Department of Energy's Energy Efficient Schools Program has helped districts invest in energy-efficient upgrades that save money, improve facilities and increase student success. Now school districts can tap into low-cost financing through the Cool Schools initiative and other incentives available through Oregon Department of Energy, Energy Trust of Oregon and Oregon's consumer-owned electric utilities and Idaho Power. There's even more value in taking immediate action to take advantage of the opportunities for the summer 2012.

The Cool Schools initiative was championed by Governor Kitzhaber and is being carried out by the Oregon Department of Energy in partnership with Energy Trust, and in coordination with consumer-owned utilities and Idaho Power. In addition to saving energy, Cool Schools achieves three goals:

- 1 Returns money to the classroom.** The Alliance to Save Energy reports that schools pay more for their energy use than for textbooks and computers combined, and these costs are growing at more than 5 percent every biennium. Saving energy saves money and puts it back in the classroom.
- 2 Boosts student and teacher performance.** Energy efficiency upgrades to older buildings can improve airflow and provide better lighting while mitigating environmental hazards. In 2005, Washington state schools saw a 15 percent reduction in absenteeism and a 5 percent increase in test scores after efficiency measures were completed.
- 3 Puts Oregonians back to work.** For every \$1 million Oregon invests in energy efficiency upgrades, as many as 15 family-wage jobs are created.

**“The Cools Schools program will not only help your district put money back into the classroom, but students will have a healthier, more comfortable environment in which to learn. Together we can improve our schools while putting local contractors back to work. I hope you will consider using Cool Schools to help finance these important improvements in your buildings.”**

–Governor John Kitzhaber, M.D.



## ENERGY EFFICIENT SCHOOLS PROGRAM IN OREGON

More and more, K-12 school administrators are finding that energy efficiency features in new and existing buildings hedge against increasing energy costs and keep more money in the budget for education. Oregon Department of Energy's Energy Efficient Schools Program provides expertise, services and loan capital to help school districts identify, organize, fund and implement energy-saving projects.

### **PUBLIC PURPOSE CHARGE (PPC) SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

- Since 2002, PPC funding of the Schools program has resulted in more than \$60 million in energy audit and investment activities in 112 school districts/654 schools.
- PPC funds are collected from customers of Portland General Electric and Pacific Power.
- Ten percent of these PPC funds support energy efficiency efforts in eligible public schools.
- Annual allocation for eligible school districts is approximately \$7.5 million.
- Number of eligible schools: 840 (457 PGE, 383 Pacific Power).
- Number of eligible school districts: 112 (36 PGE, 76 Pacific Power).
- As of June 2011, PPC funds now go directly to school districts, not to educational service districts; spending oversight remains the responsibility of the Oregon Department of Energy.
- Audits have identified an additional \$60 million in energy efficiency projects that could be funded in SB 1149 districts.

### **COOL SCHOOLS**

- Sponsored by Governor Kitzhaber, the Oregon Department of Energy-led program was created in June 2011.
- Four-year pilot program continues through June 30, 2015.
- Expands financing mechanisms for energy efficiency upgrades in public schools across the state.
- Cool Schools centralizes access to financial and technical support.
- Phase 1 provided \$4.7 million in financing to 28 schools in 8 school districts to complete \$5.3 million in energy efficiency upgrades.
- Phase 2 is underway, delivering financing, technical, and business support for projects to be completed in summer and fall of 2012.

### **GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL ENERGY AUDIT INITIATIVE**

- Sponsored by Governor Kitzhaber and the Oregon Department of Energy in January 2011.
- Paid for with American Recovery & Reinvestment Act funds.
- Covers districts in areas not eligible for Public Purpose Charge funds.
- Audited public schools in the service territories of Idaho Power and all 39 consumer-owned utilities.
- Directly contributed to the creation of 15 jobs within the audit firms contracted to perform the audits.
- Oregon Department of Energy and 11 audit firms collected energy and building data.
- Audit reports delivered to districts in December 2011.
- Energy audits covered 394 school facilities, including more than 1,000 buildings.
- Audits uncovered more than \$20 million in new energy efficiency opportunities in schools that could be funded in consumer-owned utility districts and Idaho Power.

## Measure Up a Menu of Projects

Schools can improve efficiency from floor to ceiling, inside and out. Your district's energy audit details a range of recommendations specific to the needs of your district's facilities including, but not limited to, building shell, lighting and minor HVAC improvements.

Audits may also consider controls, comprehensive HVAC improvements, water heating and insulation among hundreds of other potential energy-saving upgrades. Rely on Cool Schools staff from Oregon Department of Energy or Energy Trust to guide you through the important next steps of organizing and funding your projects.

## Calculate the Benefits

**Energy savings.** It's money that administrators can use to take the strain out of other areas in their budgets.

**Operational cost savings and building performance improvements.** Investments in new boilers in Pendleton and Dallas are saving on maintenance costs in addition to cutting energy bills.

**Job creation.** According to the U.S. Department of Energy, approximately 60 percent of all energy efficiency investments go to labor costs and 50 percent of all energy efficiency equipment is purchased from local suppliers.

**Improved school environments.** Studies show that students exposed to natural daylight in classrooms progress as much as 20 percent faster on math tests and as much as 26 percent faster on reading tests. Other research links building environments to student health, attendance and performance. Staff satisfaction increases as building conditions improve as well.

## Consult with Cool Schools

**Cool Schools is a one-stop resource:** To assist school districts with efficiency projects, the Cool Schools team acts as a clearinghouse of resources that help schools navigate from opportunities to completed projects. Contact Cool Schools for:

- Energy efficiency project identification and implementation
- Low-interest financing and financial consulting
- Connections with local vendors
- Access to incentives, rebates, grants and more

Oregon's mission is for school districts to make energy efficiency a priority this summer. No project is too small, and your district doesn't need to take out a Cool Schools loan to implement a successful energy saving project. You just need a plan and a team of energy experts at your fingertips.

The most important thing is that school districts act now to take advantage of the resources available through Cool Schools. This may be the only financing cycle in 2012. If you have a completed energy audit, contact Oregon Department of Energy or Energy Trust to help with the next steps so you're ready to roll this summer.

Cool Schools. We're here to make energy savings real.



### KLAMATH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Cool Schools Loan will help us replace an unreliable, inefficient heating system with an innovative, highly efficient one. Energy savings will more than cover the loan payments.”

–Greg Theede, superintendent

**Project:** Replace an aging oil-fired furnace with a ground source heat pump that will provide heating and air conditioning

**Project cost:** \$1.5 million

**Estimated annual energy savings:** \$140,000 fuel costs; \$10,000 maintenance costs

**Financial details:** \$400,000 in PPC account and \$120,000/year from PPC; 3.5 percent Cool Schools interest rate (max rate); 5 percent matching grant from Clean Energy Works of Oregon (\$163,100)



### CORBETT SCHOOL DISTRICT

“We had some serious comfort issues. Teachers wear hats and gloves to school.”

–Dr. Randy Trani, superintendent

**Projects:** New boiler, steam traps, control system

**Project cost:** \$679,937

**Estimated annual energy savings:** \$20,960 for first 15 years; \$79,279 for years 16-20

**Financial details:** SELP loan at a rate of 3.5 percent



### PINE EAGLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

“The immediate impact will be a warmer building. The longer term impact will be freeing up resources for learning instead of heat.”

–Mike Corley, superintendent

**Projects:** Increasing attic insulation from R-19 to R-42

**Project cost:** \$13,000

**Estimated annual energy savings:** \$2,167

**Financial details:** SELP loan at a rate of 3.5 percent



### DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

“We’ve been able to reduce our natural gas costs district-wide. In the midst of bad budget news, those savings have been a bright spot.”

–Christy Perry, district superintendent

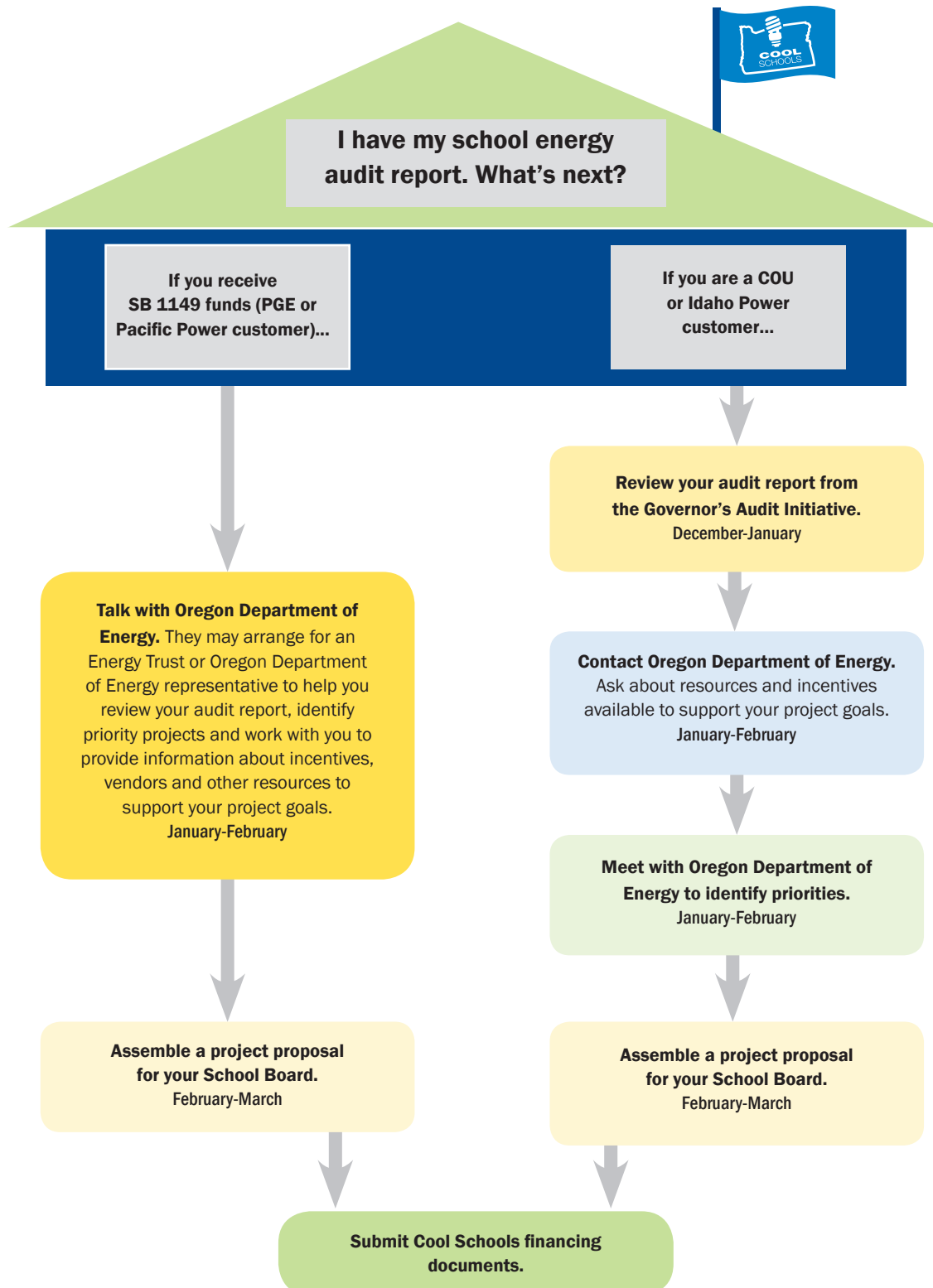
**Projects:** Roof insulation, high-efficiency gas boilers, lighting and automated controls

**Project cost:** \$472,200

**Estimated annual energy savings:** \$69,000

**Financial details:** Energy Trust incentives allowed the district to implement additional energy-saving improvements

# YOUR ROUTE TO ENERGY SAVINGS





## YOUR COOL SCHOOLS REFERENCE DESK

Cool Schools, as part of the Oregon Department of Energy's Energy Efficient Schools Program, leverages resources from multiple organizations to help school districts develop projects. This one-stop shopping approach makes it easy for districts to explore the full spectrum of options and benefits available. You'll discover there's more to efficiency than saving money on energy.

Cool Schools, Oregon Department of Energy  
503.373.0742 (*help desk*)  
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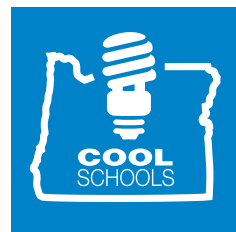
Cool Schools information  
[www.oregon.gov/energy/schools/cool\\_schools/index.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/energy/schools/cool_schools/index.shtml)  
*Explore features, such as the vendor registry, interactive map and calendar of events*

Governor's School Energy audit data, by school  
[www.sai.odoe.state.or.us](http://www.sai.odoe.state.or.us) (*unique district password required*)

Energy Trust of Oregon  
1.866.368.7878, [schools@energytrust.org](mailto:schools@energytrust.org)  
[www.energytrust.org](http://www.energytrust.org)



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