

Neillsville School District Reduces Energy Use by 8 Percent

-District saves over \$11,000 annually from energy saving measures-

Neillsville, Wis. (July 18, 2011) – In a time when many schools are faced with tough budget decisions, Neillsville has found ways to save the school district money. CESA 10, the Cooperative Educational Service Agency based in Chippewa Falls, has helped the district save \$11,612 in energy costs since they began working with CESA 10's Energy Management Team in June 2010.

“During this time of historic funding cuts to public schools in Wisconsin, it is vitally important for schools to try to find cost savings anywhere that we can,” said John Gaier, District Administrator. “I am proud of the School District of Neillsville's efforts to invest in energy cost saving measures that will reduce our energy costs in the future, so that those funds can be used to educate our children.”

Over the past year, the energy managers have listened to the needs of the district and used feedback from the building occupants to help implement appropriate energy projects. Some energy projects completed in the last year include: updating equipment schedules to save energy when the building is unoccupied, delamping over lit areas, and installing occupancy sensors in some areas.

“Mike [Lipske, CESA 10 Energy Manager] did a lighting audit and is reprogramming our system for temperature setbacks to save the district even more money,” said Dave Hohenstein, Maintenance Supervisor at Neillsville School District. “It has been a pleasure working with Mike; he is extremely knowledgeable in all areas of energy savings.”

“In addition to equipment upgrades and improving system efficiencies, there are many behavioral changes that district staff have made to contribute to energy conservation,” said Melissa Rickert, CESA 10 Energy Manager. “It is important that everyone take responsibility for the energy they use at school.”

For more information on CESA 10’s Energy Management Services, call 715.720.2178 or visit www.cesa10.k12.wi.us/energymanagement.

About CESA 10

CESA 10, located in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, is committed to providing high-quality effective and efficient business services, special education services, professional development and leadership in educational technology and instructional services for the 29 school districts in the region as well as other partner schools. In addition, CESA 10 provides energy management and environmental health and safety services to schools and municipalities statewide. CESA 10 also administers the Focus on Energy Schools and Government program.

###