



Change Energy Consumption Behavior Through Awareness and Motivation

PERI offers a wide range of technical and outreach support to give school-based staff, teachers, and students ownership responsibility and rewards for managing energy consumption in their school. Through many activities and incentives such as cash awards, dissemination of tips and conservation approaches, team building, and curriculum development, PERI promotes a culture of responsible energy use in each school. The activities are designed to motivate and inform school occupants to reduce energy waste and increase the level of environmental awareness at school and throughout the community.

ACTIVITIES

PERI can tailor any combination of the following to your needs and budget:

System-wide Activities (Automatically targeted to all schools)

Kickoff Announcement – A colorful brochure or flyer can announce and explain the new services for the coming year. Emails can be distributed in lieu of or in addition to the brochure or flyer.

General Flyers - Decorative and informative flyers instruct and remind occupants about seasonal energy saving opportunities.

Technical Flyers – Descriptive technical bulletins can target specific energy users or practices such as computer laboratories and equipment scheduling.

Handbook – An instructional energy conservation guide, full of tips, strategies, and activities, can be distributed to help schools save energy while maintaining a healthy and safe environment for learning.

Newsletters – Periodic newsletters present an excellent vehicle for publicizing schools that achieve superior energy savings, increasing energy conservation and environmental awareness, and for announcing contest winners and other successes that encourage more schools to participate.

Website – A low-cost website can provide a central repository for energy conservation instructions, answers to frequently asked questions, and links to related resources for students, teachers, and building maintenance staff.

Phoneline Support – To answer questions about energy conservation activities and information, or to schedule site visits for further support.

Email Alerts – To remind schools of important energy saving actions, and announce program opportunities like contests and awards.

Promotional Items - Pens, pencils, highlighters, stickers, post-it notes, rulers, and posters are a great way to advertise and promote energy conservation and environmental awareness, and may serve as rewards for outstanding energy conservation efforts or to support activities such as contests or other events.

Contests – To increase energy conservation and environmental awareness, and effect action, student contests can include posters, light switch plate covers, or computer-based activities (development of energy/environmental websites, quiz games, etc.).

Team Building – PERI's experience shows building a team of students, faculty, and building maintenance staff, and administration is the most effective way to changing energy behavior. A team can help plan specific activities like student conservation patrols, and also serve as the focal point for any of the activities listed above. Through team building and web-based communications, PERI can help schools establish an effective energy conservation team. Aspects of a team will included:

- ★ *Planning and conducting energy conservation activities highlighted in the enhanced handbook (eg student light patrols, equipment scheduling);*
- ★ *Working in conjunction with PERI's support.*

Specialized Activities (Targeted to a limited number of schools)

Grants – Schools interested in taking the initiative to conduct a special project aiming to reduce energy consumption, or promote energy conservation and environmental awareness are eligible for a grant to cover the costs of the project. PERI staff will be available to help develop and guide project efforts.

Building Maintenance Staff Training – Instructional training sessions present a forum where building management staff can discuss the fundamentals and benefits of energy conservation strategies, based on the energy conservation handbook and technical flyers.

Curriculum Development – PERI can provide expertise, materials, and logistical support for development of energy/environmental-based curriculum within state standards. Linking energy conservation and environmental awareness to curriculum is one of the most powerful ways to create permanent energy saving behavioral changes in schools.

Science Fair Assistance – PERI can suggest energy/environmental topic ideas and resource materials, provide contacts with of area professionals related to the subject, perform contest judging, and distribute awards and prizes.

INCENTIVES

Cash Awards – Schools that demonstrate active participation can be made eligible for monetary awards. Our experience has shown that schools can save up to several thousand dollars each year simply by changing their energy consumption behaviors. Schools and school systems both win by sharing these savings. School systems can protect themselves by limiting award amounts distributed to schools. Additionally, individual schools have the opportunity to participate in national contests such as the Earth Apple Awards sponsored by the Alliance to Save Energy. PERI can develop a web-based enrollment application that minimizes the amount of administrative duties required to enroll in national contests.

Prizes and Recognition – Savings bonds, solar calculators, certificates, and pizza parties can be presented to contest winners or to those making significant efforts helping their school save energy.

For further information, contact:

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