

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**January 18, 2010**

## **Lake Country School Exceeds Expectations in Pursuing a More Sustainable Facility**

Lake Country School in Hartland, Wisconsin, has taken major steps toward decreasing energy use and their facility's effect on the environment. During the summer and fall of 2009, the school embarked on facility improvement projects both inside and out. Dr. Andrea Shrednick, School Board President states, "We wanted to teach the kids from the top down and our top is solar now! It was important throughout the process to do as many projects with a sustainable emphasis to lead us into the future. Mark Lichte, Superintendent, also echoed his Board President, "This project encompassed approximately \$998,000 in capital projects that will keep our building modern for the next fifteen years. In many areas of our project, our aim was to embrace green initiatives. We are also excited about integrating these concepts into our school curriculum."

### **LIGHTING UPGRADE**

The lighting throughout the school was brought up to date with a retrofit to high-performance lamps. This lighting upgrade will result in an estimated 20 Kw reduction in energy use. In addition, occupancy sensors were installed in most areas of the school, lending to another 30% of energy savings. A majority of the exterior lighting was converted to more durable and long-lasting LED light systems – in some cases lasting 5 times longer than the original system. In cooperation with Focus on Energy, Lake Country School received \$22,508 in rebates for the lighting upgrade alone.

### **HVAC UPGRADES**

In order to improve efficiency, a web-based temperature control system was installed, which monitors and controls use with the help of occupancy sensors. Classrooms no longer receive heat, cooling and light throughout the day when vacant. In addition, the building was equipped with real-time energy monitoring software, which automatically reduces the run time of high-energy consuming appliances within the building. Projected savings to district

taxpayers totals \$25,000 every year based on current energy rates.

"This building showcases what's possible and profitable about intelligent building systems in terms of operational efficiencies and cost savings to taxpayers. If it didn't make sense from a cost-benefit perspective, it's not in the building," said John Albanese of Brookfield-based Environmental Systems, Inc.

### **SOLAR PANELS**

The most exciting element of the project was the addition of a solar panel system to the roof. The system will generate 17,000 kWh per year - the equivalent amount of energy that one house consumes in a year. In addition, the system will eliminate 32,000 pounds of CO2 pollution over the first year - the equivalent to planting 2 acres of trees or reducing your auto driving by 38,000 miles. The district worked closely with Focus on Energy to take advantage of rebate and grant opportunities to offset costs of the system. Ultimately, the district's initial investment of \$116,000 for the system came to a final cost of \$23,000 after rebates and grants.

### **CARPETING**

The installation of a new environmentally-friendly carpet was another sustainable element of this project. Shaw's EcoWorx backing is 100% recyclable eliminating the need to be sent to landfills after its useful life.

### **CONSTRUCTION MANAGER**

Moore Construction Services, LLC, located in Menomonee Falls, was founded on the premise that a building owner is best served through its relationship with an experienced and versatile construction partner. "It was my pleasure to work with the Lake Country School District on this forward-thinking project. I anticipate the majority of near-future school building and renovation projects will incorporate the Focus on Energy benefits into their plans." said Michael Moore, President of Moore Construction Services, LLC.