



**EFFICIENT AND  
HEALTHY SCHOOLS**

# 2022 Efficient and Healthy Schools Webinar Series

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**Webinar 3 of 4: Team Approach to Support Strategic Investments in Efficient and  
Healthy Schools**

U.S. Department of Energy and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

June 15, 2022

# Efficient and Healthy Schools Campaign Webinar

Welcome!

- Agenda is in the chat
- Webinar is being recorded
- All attendees are muted
- Please enter questions into the chat - they will be answered during the question and answer session toward the end
- We will send out the slides and presentation the week after the webinar



# Today's Webinar, Summary

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- Campaign Introduction – Rengie Chan, Berkeley Lab
- Campaign recognition program awardees presenting:
  - Best in Class – Boulder Valley School District, Ghita Carroll and Jeffrey Medwetz
  - Best in Class – Charleston County School District, Ronald Kramps
- Decarbonization Roadmap - Reilly Loveland, New Buildings Institute
- Question and answer session, moderated by Rengie Chan

# Efficient and Healthy Schools Campaign

The campaign aims to engage K-12 schools to improve energy performance and indoor air quality, with a focus on practical solutions involving HVAC and other technologies to reduce energy use and carbon emissions. This campaign is led by the U.S. Department of Energy with technical support from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.



Organizing partners



# Recognition Program: 2021 Round One

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The Efficient and Healthy Schools Campaign aims to recognize schools and school districts that have implemented exemplary solutions involving HVAC upgrades and other approaches to reduce energy costs, and improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality.



# Areas for Recognition

- Schools and school districts with a formal collaboration between facilities personnel, school administration, and the community for strategic planning and investment in efficient and healthy buildings.
- In addition to setting quantitative energy goals, the best-in-class applicants also described in their submissions the role of energy management team, how information is communicated with the school community, and the incorporation of IAQ best practices.

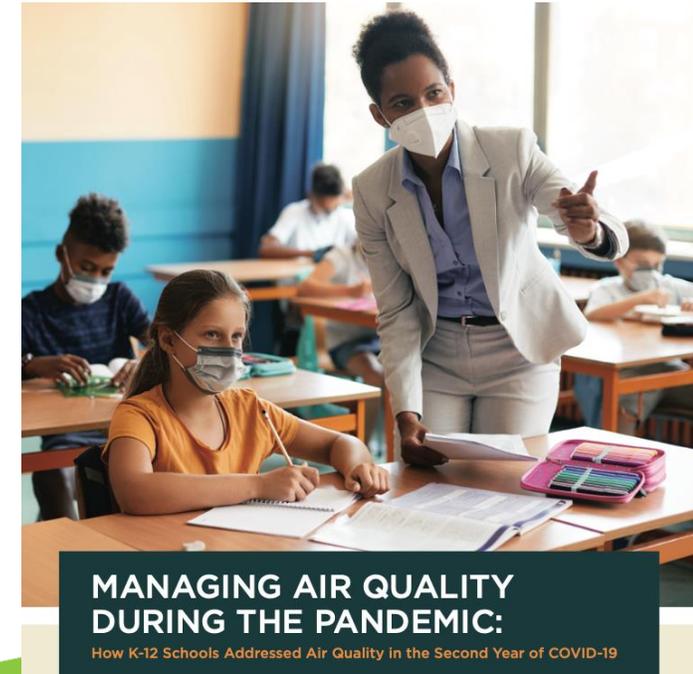


# Recent Survey (Oct-Dec 2021) of 88 School Districts

- Who among your school community were involved in deciding which ventilation, filtration, and other building controls to implement in your buildings? Check all that apply.

# Decision Makers	Facilities Staff	Superintendent	School-Level Admin.	School Board	Teachers / Parents	% Responses
Four or more	X	X	X	X and/or	X	23%
Three	X	X	X or	X		23%
Two	X	X or	X			28%
One	X					26%

<https://www.usgbc.org/resources/managing-air-quality-during-pandemic-how-k-12-schools-addressed-air-quality-second-year>



## MANAGING AIR QUALITY DURING THE PANDEMIC:

How K-12 Schools Addressed Air Quality in the Second Year of COVID-19

P. Jacob Bueno de Mesquita, Ph.D.  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Wanyu Rengle Chan, Ph.D.  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Anisa Heming  
Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council

Caroline Shannon, AIA  
Center for Green Schools, MPH candidate at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

**THE CENTER  
FOR GREEN SCHOOLS**



# Key to Success

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- Set goals
- Dedicated team to take charge of energy and IAQ management
- Engage school community
  - Monitoring
  - Communication



**BOULDER VALLEY**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

June 2022

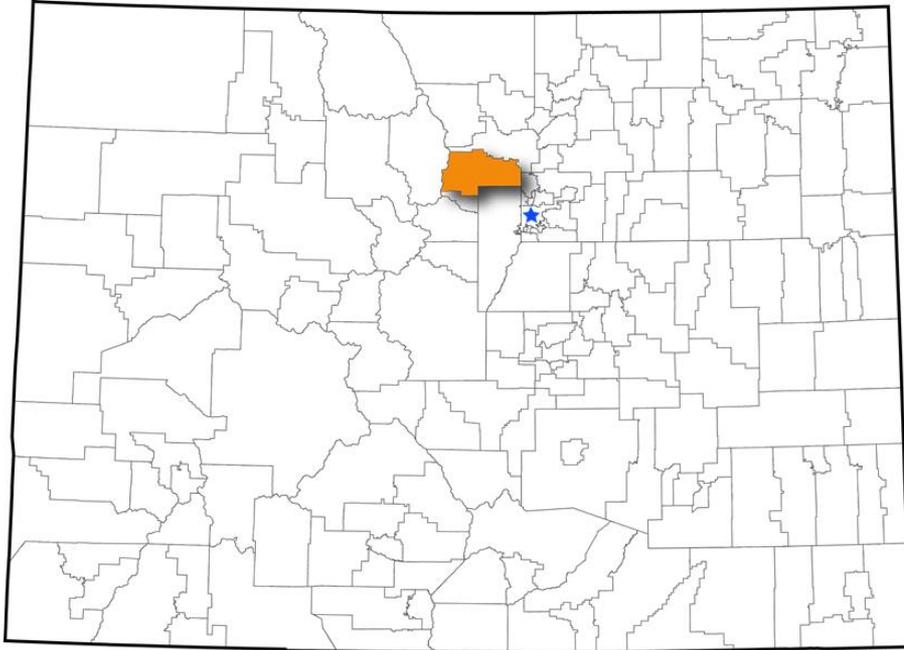
# Efficient and Healthy Schools

**Ghita Carroll**, Sustainability Coordinator, BVSD

**Jeff Medwetz**, Project Director, School District of Manatee County FL  
(former BVSD Project Manager of Energy Systems)



# BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



colorado school districts

**500** Square Miles

**4.8M** square  
FEET

**65** BUILDINGS

**72%** of buildings 30+ years old  
OLDEST: 1882 | NEWEST: 2017

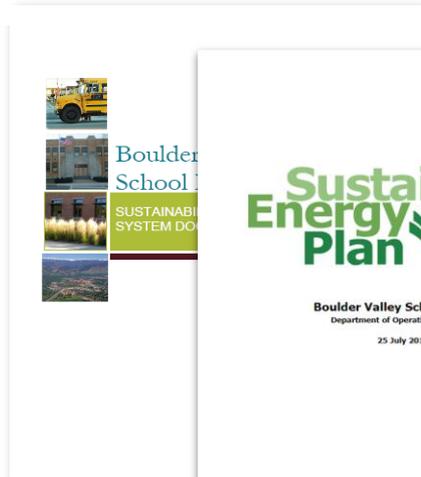
**65** ACRES of grounds

**\$6.6M** ANNUAL utility spend

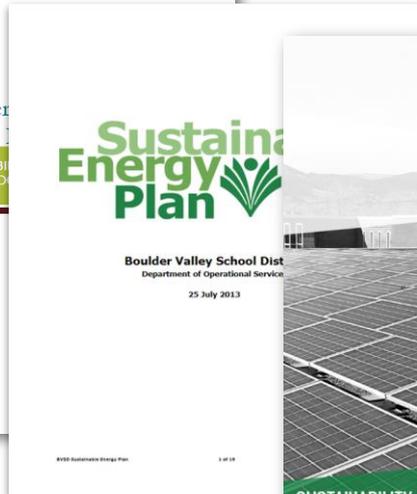
**30,000** Students



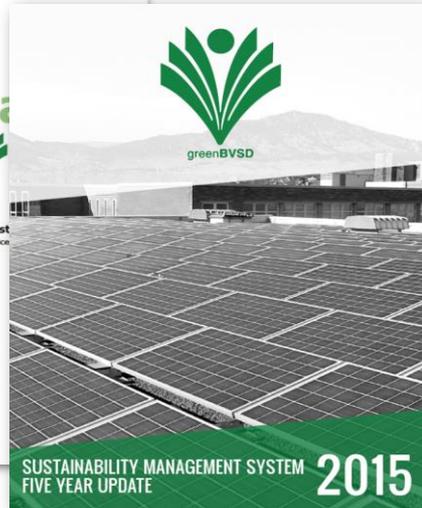
# Sustainability Planning



2009 SMS



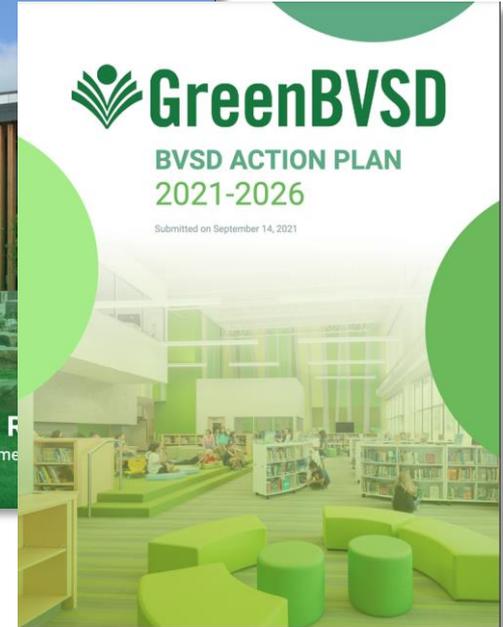
2013 Energy Plan



2015 SMS Update



2021 Progress Report



2021 Action Plan



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# New Vision and Mission

## Vision

All together, for all students, and the planet

## Mission

As a leader in whole-district sustainability, Boulder Valley School District creates healthy learning environments and experiences that equip all students and staff with the knowledge and skills to create more equitable and sustainable communities.

# New Focus Areas

## This new plan looks different!

- Previous plans have focused primarily in Operations.
- The new plan expands to cover all four of BVSD's impact systems.
  - Overarching goal and 3-5 supporting goals
- 5-year timeline



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# IAQ Brief Overview

- Opportunity with the Bond
- Partnership with University of Tulsa & University of Colorado
  - Tracking and evaluating
- District Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Advisory Team
  - Response mechanisms



**BOULDER VALLEY**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



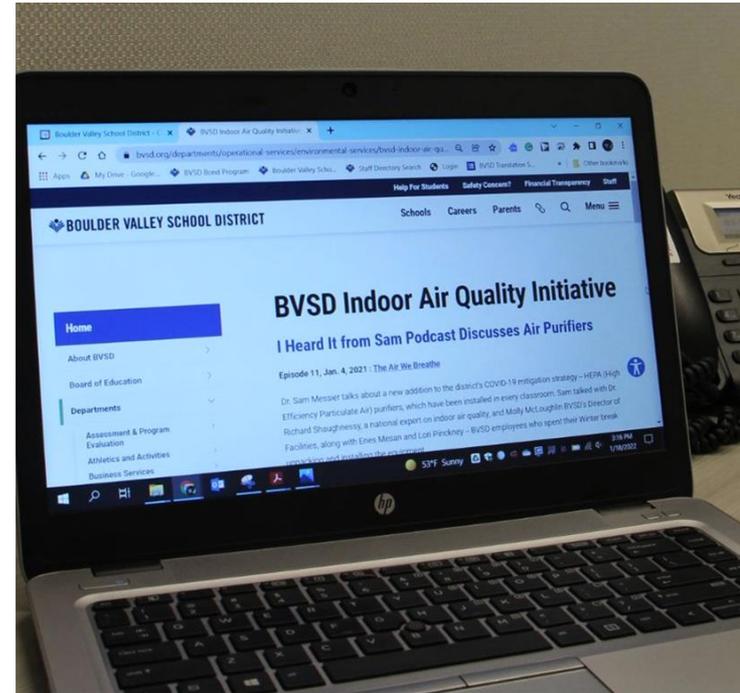
# Specific Strategies

- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) checklist
  - Maximize IEQ points
- Heating Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC) work in most buildings
- Purge clutter
- New guidelines (plants, furniture, etc.)



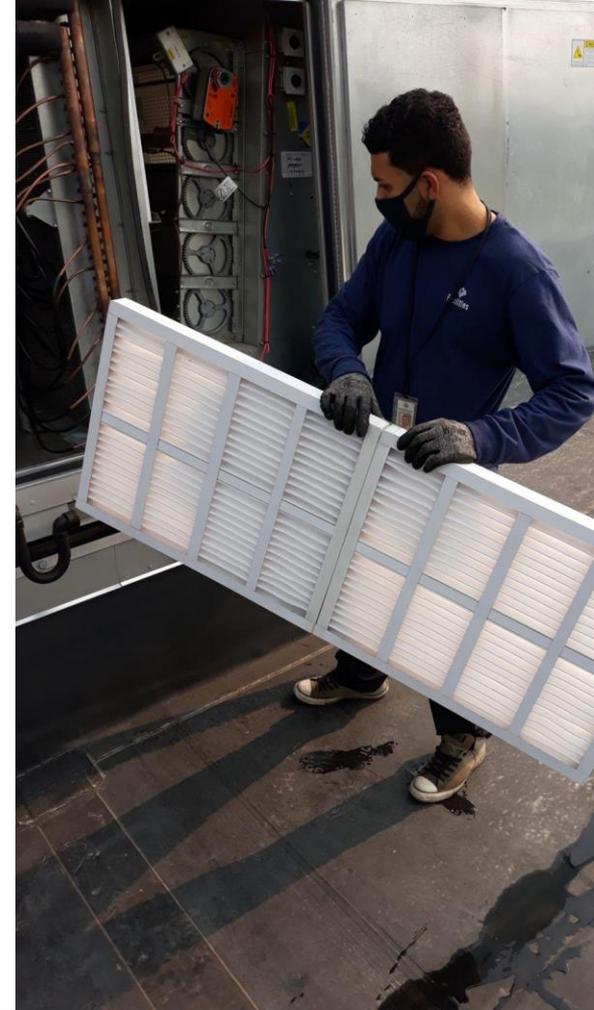
# Indoor Air Quality Advisory Team

- Purpose
  - Disseminate information
  - Register complaints
  - Communicate regarding issues
- Membership
  - 19 members
  - Committee leadership
- Background/website



# Advisory Team Accomplishments

- IAQ Liaisons
- Recommendations for renovated spaces
- Recommendations for response/process to IAQ issues
- Integrated Pest Management and IAQ language for standard operating procedures
- Green cleaning practices and non-toxic products
- Support and feedback for COVID procedures



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# Multi Year IAQ Study

- Pre-renovation audits
  - 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19
- Post-renovation audits
  - 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22
- Summary of results



# Measurements/observations recorded in BVSD

- **Phase 1 & 2 data from 32 schools (Pre- & Post- Renovation)**
  - 1. Monitoring and measurements**
    - A. Continuous monitoring of CO<sub>2</sub>, T, RH (school occupied hours)
      - Compared to standards for ventilation and thermal comfort
    - B. Assessment of cleaning effectiveness using adenosine tri-phosphate (ATP) sampling on classroom desks\*
      - A minimum of 30 samples per school pre- and post-cleaning
      - Examine changes between pre- and post-.
  - 2. Walkthrough / observations & spot checks**
    - A. Standardized checklists based on US EPA's Tools for Schools kit
  - 3. Staff Survey assessments**

\* ATP is a marker for degree of biocontamination on a surface



## Interpretation of the measurement data.

Rating	T [°F]	RH [%]	CO <sub>2</sub> [ppm]	ATP [RLU]
Acceptable	$68 \leq T \leq 75$	30–60	< 1200	$\leq 5399$
Needs improvement	$75 < T \leq 79$	20-30	1200-2000	5400-17300
Poor	$T < 68, T > 79$	$RH < 20, RH > 60$	> 2000	$\geq 17301$
Interpretation based on current standards or recommendations	ASHRAE recommends indoor temperatures (T) in the winter be maintained between 68 and 75°F, whereas summer temperatures should be maintained between 73 and 79°F.	Relative humidity (RH) should be about 30–60 % (EPA).	ASHRAE Standard 62 recommends carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) concentration 700 ppm above the outdoor concentration as the upper limit. however, given new concerns due to COVID, recommendations are aimed to optimize system operation to provide increased outdoor air ventilation to lower the risk of airborne transmission of the disease.	The ISSA Clean Standard For K-12 Schools for classroom desks, post-cleaning indicates effective cleaning when ATP (Charm Sciences system) reading is $\leq 5399$ RLUs, needs improvement when 5400 to 17300 RLUs, and ineffective cleaning when $\geq 17301$ RLUs.

# Temperature

ASHRAE acceptable range for temperature is 68-75°F; BVSD setpoints are within this range.

**12.5%**

increase in rooms with acceptable temperature

**94.4%**

of sampled classrooms in the acceptable range

# Carbon Dioxide

- ASHRAE acceptable range for CO<sub>2</sub> <1200 ppm
- Ongoing installation of CO<sub>2</sub> monitors; 31% installed to date

**43.7%**  
improvement in CO<sub>2</sub>

# ATP (cleaning)

The ISSA Clean Standard  
for K-12 Schools  
indicates effective  
cleaning when ATP  $\leq$   
5399 RLU

Clear  
**Reduction**  
in ATP levels post-cleaning

# Moving Forward

- Continuing education efforts
- Increased awareness
- Adjusting systems
- Informing policy and practice
- Continuation of phase 3 of the Indoor Air Quality work
- Final report 2023



# District Energy Goals

LONG TERM • 2050

**Zero Energy-Capable District: Average 30 EUI**

EVERY 5 YEARS

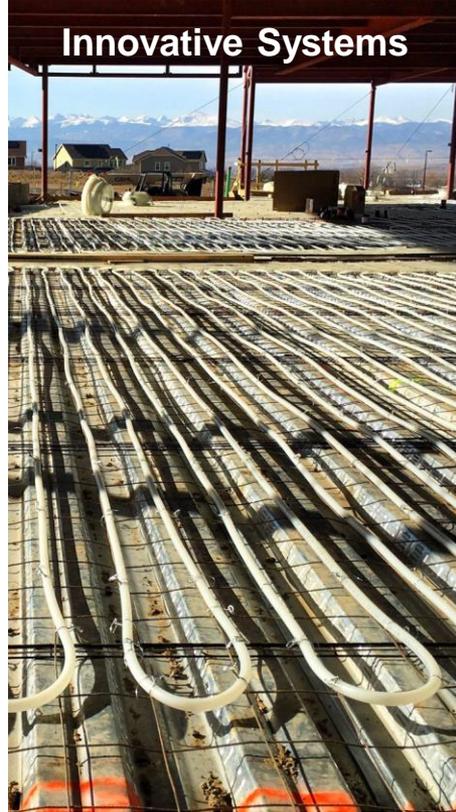
**Reduce District Energy Use by 12%**

# General Strategies

Integrated Design



Innovative Systems



Efficient Equipment



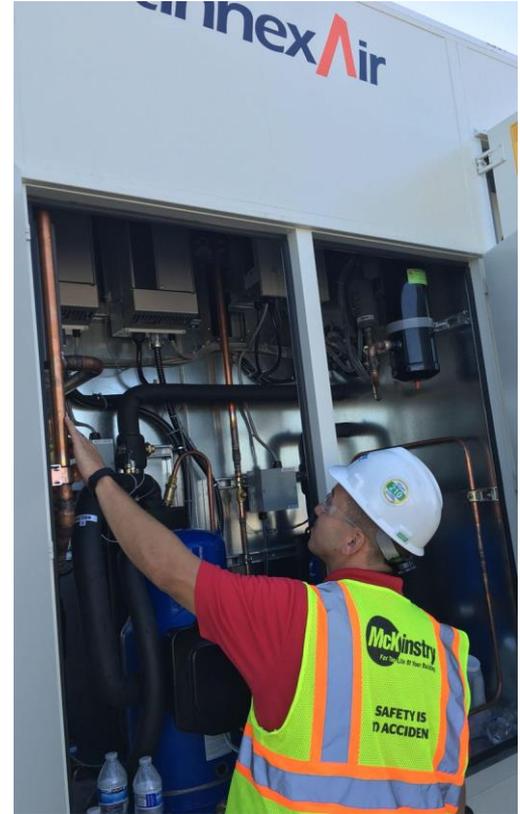
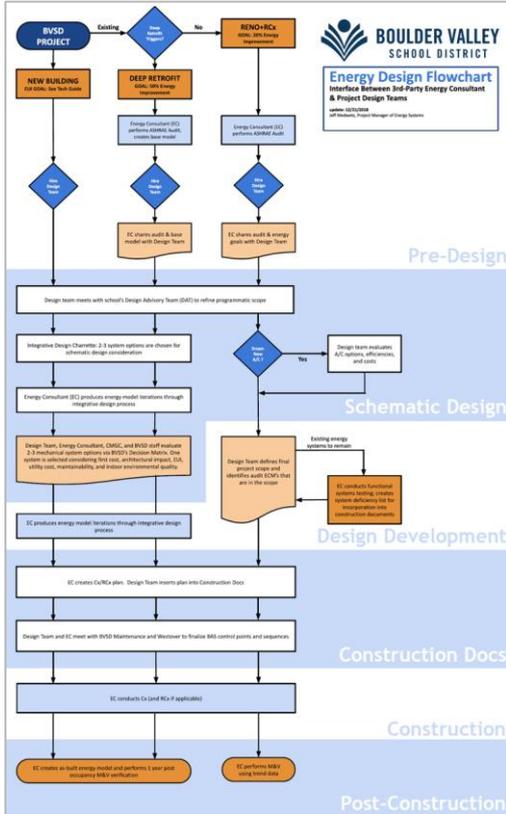
Commissioning



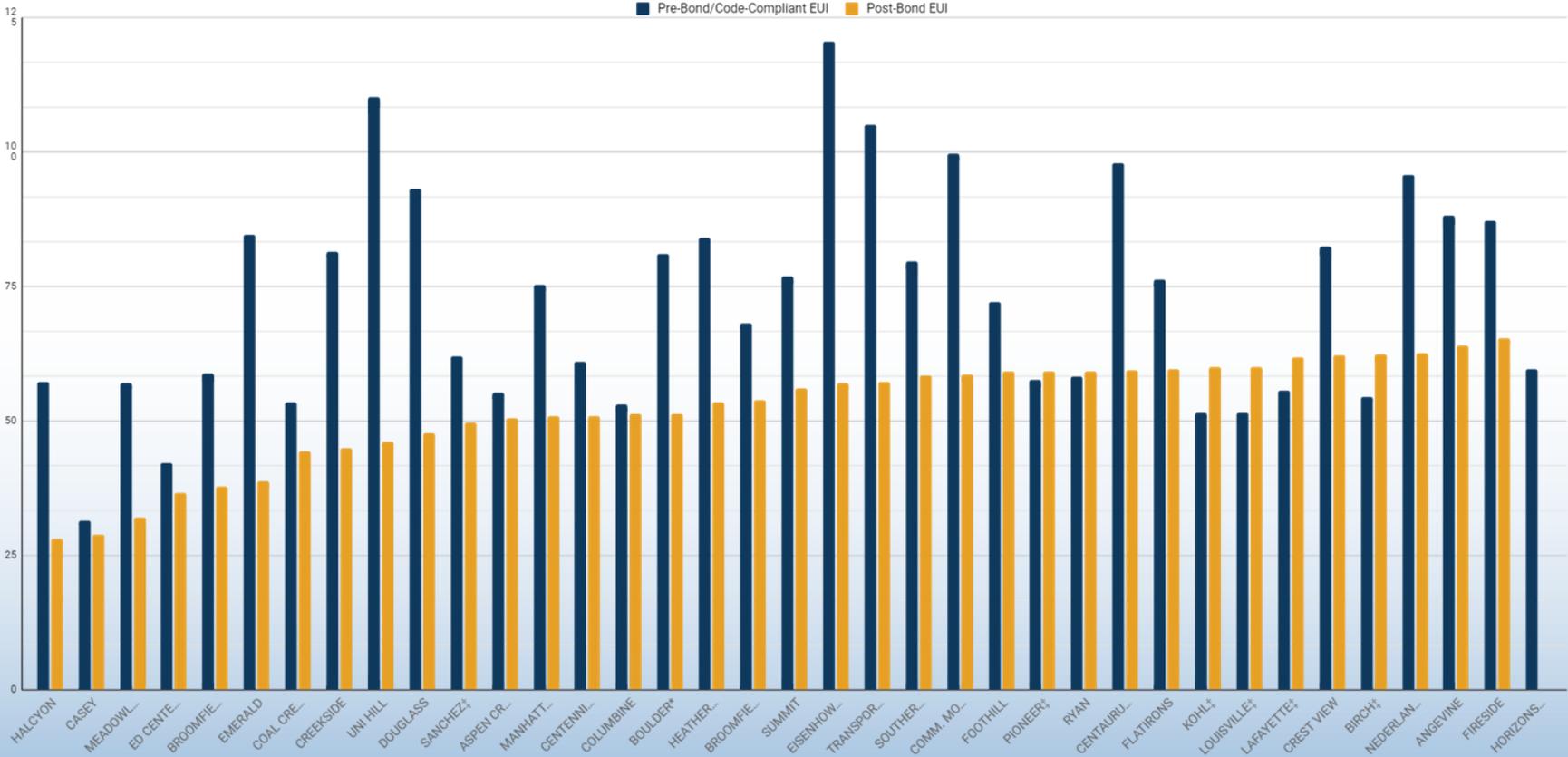
# Strategy: HVAC System Decision Matrix

Mechanical System Selection Matrix for Facility Design			
<b>New Vista High School</b> 	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
	Chilled Beam + Indirect Evap Commons	Chilled Beam + CHW Commons	FCU + Evap Commons
MECHANICAL SYSTEM FIRST COST	\$4,093,700	\$4,047,600	\$3,987,800
FUTURE PROOFING (antipated annual energy cost)	\$59,145.00	\$59,620.00	\$61,759.00
Standard Schedule	\$56,889	\$57,067	\$54,359
Full Schedule	\$59,145	\$59,620	\$61,759
EUI (full schedules)	25.60	27.10	25.70
<b>MAINTAINABILITY</b>			
Consider parts availability, relative system complexity, and ease of repair.	<b>8.333</b>	<b>8.556</b>	<b>3.778</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTABILITY</b>			
Consider the impact on construction schedule, building structure.	<b>6.667</b>	<b>6.778</b>	<b>4.889</b>
<b>INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>			
Consider indoor air quality, level of mechanical acoustical noise, and thermal comfort.	<b>8.556</b>	<b>8.111</b>	<b>4.444</b>
<b>FIRST COST</b>			
Impact of mechanical system to the project construction budget.	<b>9.734</b>	<b>9.850</b>	<b>10.000</b>
<b>FUTURE-PROOFING</b>			
Impact to ongoing utility budget and ability to hedge against future energy price volatility.	<b>10.000</b>	<b>9.920</b>	<b>9.558</b>
<b>ENERGY USE INTENSITY</b>			
Consider the lowest EUI	<b>10.000</b>	<b>9.941</b>	<b>9.996</b>
<b>TOTAL AVERAGE SCORE</b>	<b>8.882</b>	<b>8.859</b>	<b>7.111</b>

# Strategy: Energy Consultants / Commissioning



# Results - 24% Average Efficiency Improvement





**BOULDER VALLEY**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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<https://www.bvsd.org/departments/operational-services/sustainability/>

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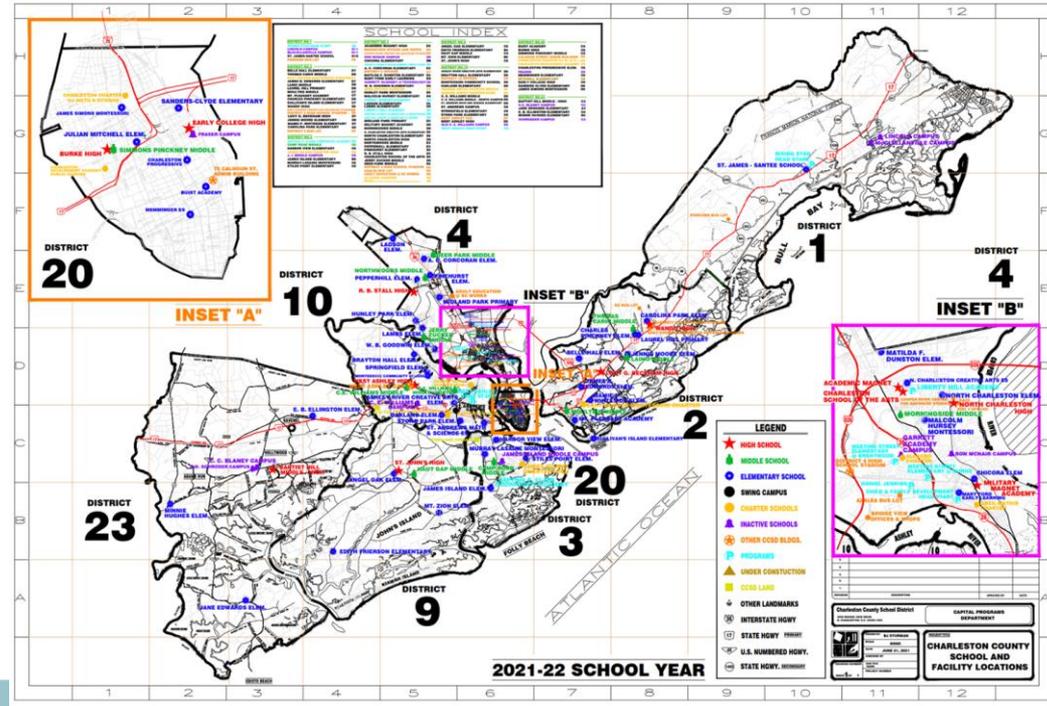
# Team Approach To Energy Efficiency & IAQ Excellence

Ron Kramps, PE, CEM

Associate of Facilities Management

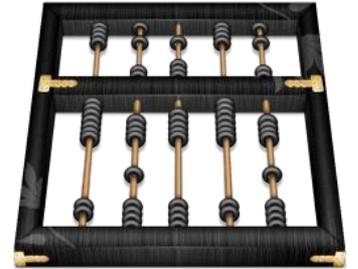
Charleston County School District, SC

# Charleston County School District



# CCSD Facility Information

- 88 Schools, charters, programs
- + • 24 Head Start, leased, storage, admin, land, bus lots, stadiums
- 112 Properties/Campuses
- 10 MSF
- ~50,000 students



**Charleston belongs to “Council of the Great City Schools” - ~70 largest urban districts**

# CCSD EUI Tracker

● CCSD EUI ● FY 2000 Baseline ● State Energy Goal — New 1.5% Reduction Goal

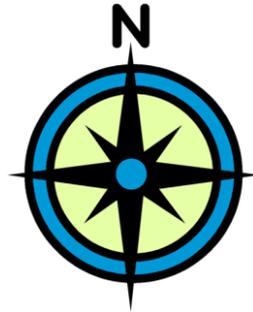


1% per year Goal  
1.5% per year Achieved

37% Improvement

# Team Focus: Purpose & Mission

- ❖ Purpose (why): To provide safe, healthy, comfortable, pleasant facilities that work all the time and enhance learning.
- ❖ Mission (how): Anticipating facility needs and meeting those needs before they become obvious.



**Why are we here? How are we most effective**

# Team Mindset: Facility Asset Management

- Facilities are assets, useful for producing educated students
- You must designate “Asset Managers” who are charged with understanding and owning their assets, i.e. HVAC, restrooms, playgrounds, security systems...
  - List/quantities
  - Condition
  - Maintenance requirements
  - Cost to maintain
  - Desired specs for new
  - Annual “Status of Assets” presentation to leadership



**Without a clear sense of “ownership” facilities will not be properly managed!**

# Who Supports Energy Efficiency & IAQ Excellence? Who Doesn't!

- Custodial: clean indoor environments; promotes integrity of envelope
- Grounds: landscapes & features to limit flooding & dirt migration
- Engineers: design/upgrade various building elements for efficiency
- Planners: biennial condition assessment to map out improvements
- Roof Program: cleans, inspects, repairs to keep moisture out
- Prev Maintenance: filter changes & efficient gear operations
- Controls Vendor: maximizes efficiency through automation
- Energy Program: facility audits to assess compliance

**Daily tasks that support energy conservation & IAQ!**



# Engender Tenant Support

- Energy “Regulations” establish best practices and checklists for compliance
- Seven annual audits of facilities by controls partner
- Audits before holiday breaks and several unannounced audits
- Incentives encourage cooperation
- Awards for compliance (by SF or occupant)
- About \$350,000 paid out each year



# Measuring Effectiveness

- Of course measure EUI (Energy Use Intensity)
- Of course audit your facilities for compliance
- But what about:
  - Number of roof leaks per month
  - Work order efficiency, i.e complete <7days, etc.
  - PM/TM ratio
  - Principal “report cards” for custodial & grounds work
  - Emergencies/MSF



# Many Thanks!

- Almost everyone has a role in energy efficiency and IAQ excellence.
- Establish purpose & mission.
- Establish asset management mindset.
- Explain roles and responsibilities (and never stop reminding!).
- Engender support from the tenants through incentives.
- Enjoy safer, healthier, more pleasant facilities!





## Q&A

Contact us at [EHSC@lbl.gov](mailto:EHSC@lbl.gov)

# Become a Participant or Supporter

- Access technical assistance and resources on best practices, guidance, case studies, and webinars
- Campaign prioritize schools serving low-income communities and in rural areas
- Campaign participants can receive recognition for their exemplary efforts to improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality
- Campaign supporters are encouraged to share and promote goals and benefits of efficient and healthy schools

## Engaging K-12 Schools to Improve Energy Efficiency and Indoor Air Quality

The Efficient and Healthy Schools campaign will engage schools—especially those serving low-income student populations—to reduce energy costs and improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality. The campaign aims to connect schools with practical solutions to heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and other technologies. Its goal is to reduce energy use, lower carbon emissions and promote a healthy learning environment by enabling good indoor air quality.

### PARTICIPANT

As participants, schools will:

- Stay informed by receiving newsletter.
- Engage in peer-to-peer learning.
- Participate in the development of technical resources to simplify and scale solutions that improve energy performance and indoor air quality.

Participating schools can receive recognition for their exemplary efforts to improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality through operation and maintenance, HVAC upgrades and replacement, ongoing monitoring and data analytics, and support for a culture for efficient healthy school buildings.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** | Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
& RENEWABLE ENERGY

### SUPPORTER

The campaign plans to engage supporters such as designers, engineers, consultants, program implementers, and others that work with K-12 schools.

As supporters, organizations will:

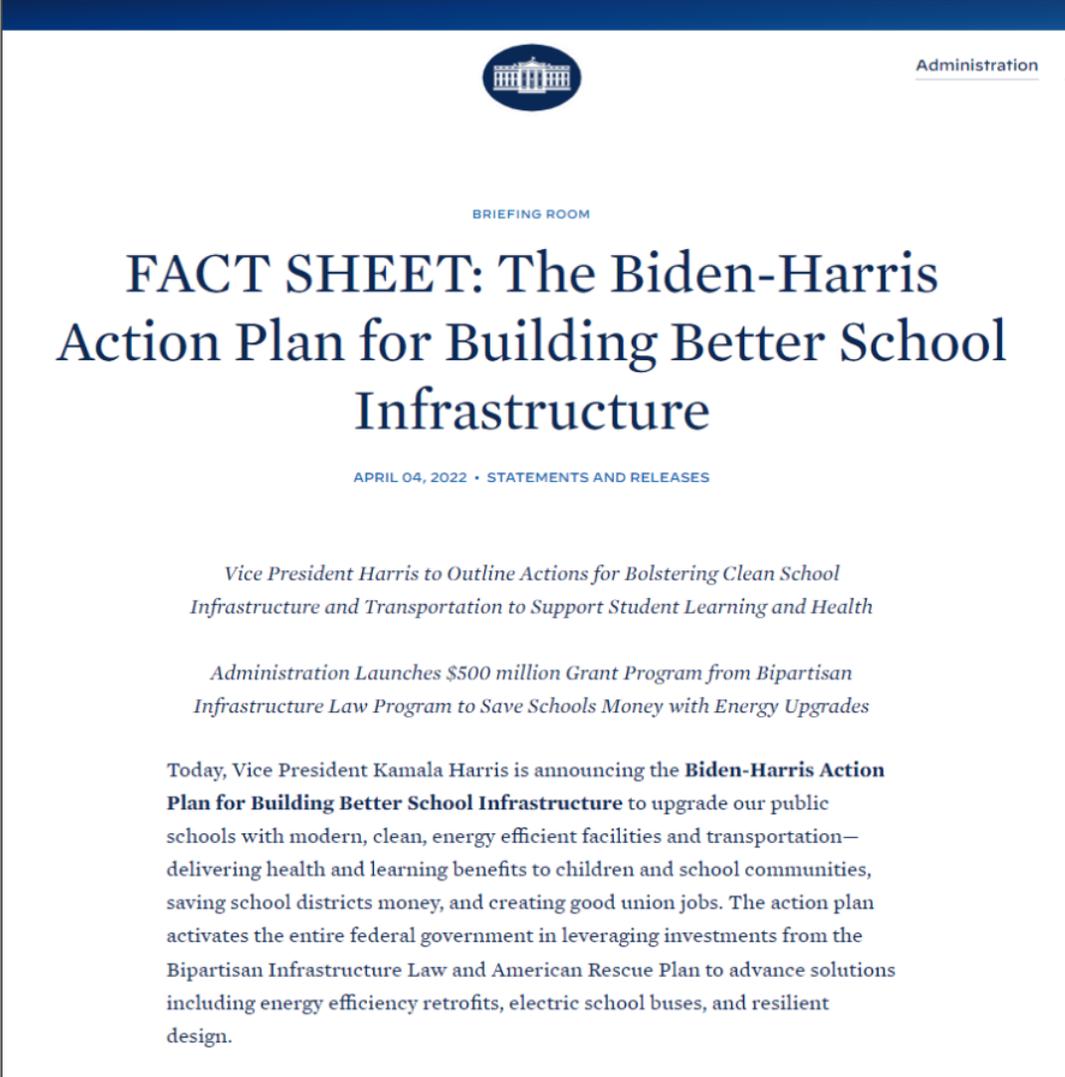
- Help us share the benefits of efficient and healthy school buildings.
- Partner with the campaign team to promote improvements in K-12 schools.
- Receive public recognition for your support.
- Share and promote existing resources, programs and tools.

To learn more, please visit  
[efficienthealthyschools.lbl.gov](http://efficienthealthyschools.lbl.gov)  
or contact us at [EHSC@lbl.gov](mailto:EHSC@lbl.gov)

# DOE at Center of Building Better Schools Action Plan

The Biden-Harris Action Plan for Building Better School Infrastructure will:

**Invest in More Efficient, Energy-Saving School Buildings:** The Department of Energy (DOE) is launching a \$500 million grant program through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to make public schools more energy efficient. This new program will lower energy costs, improve air quality, and prioritize schools most in need, enabling schools to focus more resources on student learning.



The screenshot shows a document header with the DOE seal and the word 'Administration' in the top right. Below the seal is the text 'BRIEFING ROOM'. The main title is 'FACT SHEET: The Biden-Harris Action Plan for Building Better School Infrastructure'. Below the title is the date 'APRIL 04, 2022' and the category 'STATEMENTS AND RELEASES'. There are two sub-headings in italics: 'Vice President Harris to Outline Actions for Bolstering Clean School Infrastructure and Transportation to Support Student Learning and Health' and 'Administration Launches \$500 million Grant Program from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Program to Save Schools Money with Energy Upgrades'. The main body of text begins with 'Today, Vice President Kamala Harris is announcing the **Biden-Harris Action Plan for Building Better School Infrastructure** to upgrade our public schools with modern, clean, energy efficient facilities and transportation—delivering health and learning benefits to children and school communities, saving school districts money, and creating good union jobs. The action plan activates the entire federal government in leveraging investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and American Rescue Plan to advance solutions including energy efficiency retrofits, electric school buses, and resilient design.'

# Upcoming webinar: July 2022

- Efficient HVAC for improving indoor environmental quality



## RTU Replacement ISP Toolkit



The Rooftop unit (RTU) replacement package includes a high-efficiency RTU, advanced controls based on ASHRAE Guideline 36, and energy monitoring. Optionally and where appropriate, the package also includes window films and cool roofs to reduce the RTU load and size.

Each integrated systems package (ISP) includes a set of efficiency measures that are commercially proven and amenable to standardization.

