

Case study

Moose Lake Community School
Moose Lake, Minn.



State-of-the-art equipment and technology offer savings to new school



The story:

In June 2012, a rainstorm flooded the town of Moose Lake, causing considerable damage to their 80-year-old school and necessitating a move to higher ground. The district owned land on a hill that would eventually serve as the home for a brand-new Moose Lake Community School serving 650 students in grades K-12. Five years after the flood, the doors were opened to a state-of-the-art, modern facility featuring the latest technology and equipment.

The problem:

After it was determined the old school was unsalvageable, the Moose Lake school district was able to start with a clean slate. Drawing from their experience with the previous school, the new construction project provided the prime opportunity to

make smart, energy-efficient decisions upfront. A purposeful plan built with ongoing savings in mind also took into consideration rebate programs from Minnesota Energy Resources that provided an immediate impact, shaving substantial costs off the project from the beginning.

“It is important for our school to manage its environmental impact. Installing energy-efficient equipment was an easy decision that will offer savings for years to come.”

– School Superintendent Billie Jo Steen



\$25,380
saved annually on
natural gas bills



\$41,100
received in rebates

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By partnering with Minnesota Energy Resources, Moose Lake Community School was eligible for the following **natural gas rebates totaling \$41,100:**



**Condensing
water heaters**



**Hot water
boilers**



**High efficiency
convection oven**



**Dishwasher
dual sanitizing**



In addition, Moose Lake Community School invested in a building automation program called Metasys. This computer-based system allows the building engineer to control the HVAC, lighting and security to make savvier decisions that enhance student comfort and productivity, as well as increase energy savings and decrease natural gas consumption.

The solution:

The new school is a lesson in incorporating high-tech solutions and low-tech environmental considerations, both providing great energy savings. Using energy-efficient equipment to handle the school's heating was an incredible upgrade over the old school's water heaters and steam boilers. A commercial kitchen, featuring an ENERGY STAR®-certified oven and dishwasher, yielded additional rebate savings as well as continued reductions in day-to-day costs and energy usage.

The results:

Building almost always surfaces opportunities for increased efficiencies. In partnership with Minnesota Energy Resources, the Moose Lake Community School was able to capitalize on more than \$40,000 in rebates and more than \$25,000 in annual natural gas savings. Doing the research and homework upfront provided to be very valuable for the school district. Not only did they enjoy energy savings upfront, but also benefits to the bottom line for years to come.

“The energy-efficient equipment we selected, paired with the technology, is far and above superior to the old building. This new equipment makes our energy dollars go farther.”

– Building and Grounds Supervisor Doug Wolff

For more information about rebates and programs from Minnesota Energy Resources, visit minnesotaenergyresources.com or call **866-872-0052**.

