

What's New at Smouse!

Smouse Opportunity School has recently installed a new pool cover that will help to reduce operational costs. The pool cover is operated electronically and takes just a few minutes to open and to close. When pool water evaporates, it takes heat with it. Because a CO-VERSTAR system prevents most evaporation, heating requirements are much less. That saves natural gas which can be used for more essential uses. The cover can help save up to 70% of the pool chemicals you would use if the pool was uncovered.



Great News.....



The Kum & Go Corporation has generously donated \$2000 to our class! We plan to use this money to buy a laptop for our LabVolt solar wind training system. This will make it easier for the students to be able to work with the system next semester. We are really looking forward to doing some great work with this new technology.

We are also planning on purchasing cameras to assist with the creation of our portfolios. We think it will be breathtaking for people to see what we are doing, sustaining our world, and learning about different energy systems throughout our world. You can visit our web site at: <https://sites.google.com/site/iesadmps>.

We plan to purchase recycling bins. Getting new ones will make it easier and more effective when it's time for us to clean up at the end of class.

This donation will help to save some money for next year so that we will be able to take the fieldtrips to wind farms, Minneapolis, Chicago, and various state parks.

The staff and students at the Iowa Energy and Sustainability Academy would like to thank the Kum & Go Corporation for all of their support that they have given us this past year; we are very grateful. Without your support we wouldn't be able to accomplish so much. Thank you for having faith in us and continuing to support our class. Thanks so much Kum & Go!



White House Council on Environmental Policy Visits Des Moines North High School

In President Barack Obama's State of the Union address on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, he reminded Americans that "the easiest way to save money is to waste less energy." So it's no coincidence that he dispatched the Chair of his White House Council on Environmental Quality to visit Des Moines Public Schools.

Nancy Sutley spent the morning touring the newly retooled and rejuvenated North High School and then sat down with a portion of the school's rapidly growing number of Advanced Placement students for a wide-ranging discussion of everything from renewed school spirit to renewable sources of energy.

Recently completed renovations at North include a geothermal heating and cooling system, the 27th to be installed in district facilities. A year from now the number will be 31.

Asked why Sutley chose to visit DMPS, Bill Good – Chief Operations Officer for DMPS – explained that word is getting around the nation about our district's exemplary and lengthy record of achievements in energy conservation.

"We get contacts from other districts all the time wanting to know how we've done what we've done," Good said. "The community rightly expects their tax dollars to be used efficiently and we take that very seriously. We have found ways to improve learning environments while cutting costs at the same time. We've not only saved energy, we've saved jobs with our projects, whether it's teachers in the classrooms or the workmen remodeling them."

Examples of why DMPS has become, according to Sutley, "a national model" of energy efficiency include the fact that even though 92 percent of district classrooms are now air conditioned, up from 66 percent five years ago, over the same period of time energy costs have dropped by more than \$1.4 million. Put another way, air conditioning has increased by 40 percent while energy costs have dropped 20 percent.

"The saved energy costs over that period of time means more resources for educating our kids," Good points out. "We've also earned more than half a million dollars in rebates from MidAmerican Energy."

The district has achieved an average ENERGY STAR score of 76, up from its baseline score of 54. Between fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2009-10, DMPS reduced energy use by 60,913 mBtu, preventing the emission of almost 5,700 metric tons of carbon dioxide, or the equivalent to the annual greenhouse gas emissions from more than 1,100 passenger vehicles.

Savings on that scale are why DMPS was recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an "ENERGY STAR® Leader." Forty-three district buildings now qualify for Energy Star status.

Improved efficiencies at North have resulted in a 35% reduction in energy costs despite a 10,000 square foot addition and the installation of air conditioning.

North, like the rest of DMPS, is being rebuilt to last.



Check it out...

SOLAR PANELS

Solar Panels are the newest trend in heating. Ruby Van Meter recently installed 3 of these panels that will be used for pre-heating the make-up water at for the pool at Van Meter. Make-up water is the water that is added to the pool because of the loss of water during usage.

This installation is the first one in our district. Solar energy does not produce harmful emissions or rely on transportation, pipelines, or coal like electric energy does.

Solar water heating systems installed in the U.S. help reduce our household energy consumption and the nation's reliance on fossil fuels.

Solar water heating systems will work anywhere in the U.S. - not just in sunny states.



YEAR-TO-DATE SITE ENERGY USAGE REPORT

Year To Date thru December 2011

Site	Total Energy (mBtu)	% Chg	Site	Total Energy (mBtu)	% Chg
Welcome Center	53	-56%	CNC	4,816	3%
Merrill	1,070	-55%	Pleasant Hill	535	3%
Walker Street	578	-48%	Perkins	528	4%
Jackson	301	-45%	Cattell	579	4%
McKee	152	-34%	Howe	403	5%
Roosevelt	5,072	-34%	North	6,263	5%
Brody	1,949	-28%	South Union	657	6%
Dean Operations Center	648	-26%	Oak Park	763	7%
McCombs			Stowe	446	7%
Greenhouse	153	-24%	McKinley	949	9%
Samuelson	400	-21%	Madison	568	10%
Callanan	1,407	-16%	Monroe	1,302	10%
East	5,968	-16%	Wright	293	10%
Walnut Street	2,599	-15%	Hillis	471	15%
Hiatt	1,567	-14%	Capitol View	1,013	15%
Aviation Lab	157	-13%	Hubbell	707	16%
Park Avenue	670	-11%	River Woods	1,302	18%
Weeks	1,266	-10%	Jefferson	780	19%
Willard	718	-10%	Morris	713	23%
Harding	1,600	-9%	Prospect	2,719	25%
King	444	-8%	Lincoln	9,066	25%
Brubaker	880	-5%	Van Meter	2,393	27%
McCombs	2,305	-3%	Central Campus	10,853	29%
Cowles	570	-3%	Smouse	2,076	31%
Findley	735	-2%	Mitchell	395	33%
Goodrell	1,128	-1%	Lovejoy	909	36%
Phillips	625	-1%	Hoyt	2,816	38%
Carver	914	0%	Lincoln South	2,563	42%
Garton	761	1%	Stuebaker	1,558	47%
Greenwood	626	1%	Hoover/ Meredith	8,224	48%
Windsor	482	2%	Casady	1,083	56%
Hanawalt	487	2%	Moore (Scavo)	879	78%
Central Academy	1,509	2%	Moulton	4,044	91%
			Woodlawn	270	151%

■ Building under construction comparison year 2009-10

● Building occupied during renovations

◇ Building unoccupied part of comparison year

Visit www.dmps.k12.ia.us for more details of the district's energy mission and building performance. *Tell us about it!* Do you want to share your ideas for saving energy or helping our environment? Or want to let us know about your projects?

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Key



Increase in energy use
Maintaining energy use
Decrease in energy use