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Hemet Unified School District

Press Release

Hemet Unified School District Program Earns Environmental Stewardship Award

Hemet, CA; October 18, 2011:

For saving enough energy in 11 months to effectively plant more than 42,248 trees, Hemet Unified School District was presented with The Award for Energy Stewardship from Energy Education during the October 18th board meeting. The Award for Energy Stewardship recognizes the organization's efforts to implement an innovative organizational behavior-based energy conservation and management program. The program is administered through a strategic alliance with Energy Education, a national company whose energy conservation programs have saved more than \$2.5 billion for educational and ministerial organizations since 1986.

"Hemet Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Steven Lowder, the board members and administration are demonstrating wise fiscal and environmental stewardship by implementing this unique organizational behavior-based energy conservation program," said Dr. William S. Spears, Chairman and Founder of Energy Education. "Using human resources to reduce energy use saves natural and financial resources for the organization and the community."

The program delivers an environmental benefit from reduced carbon footprint. Energy not used prevents the emission of carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. According to EPA/EGrid figures, in the first 11 months of the program, Hemet Unified School District saved 20,680 MMBTU, the equivalent of 1,652 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions being prevented, 296 cars removed from the road, or 42,248 pine trees grown for 10 years.

"This energy program is an excellent vehicle to assist our personnel in practicing good stewardship of our resources. The willing participation of virtually every staff person — faculty, administrators, food service, maintenance and custodial people — adds to our success," said Dr. Lowder, Superintendent.

Energy Education Specialists Mrs. Quay Holland and Mr. Andrew McGuire receive intensive training from Energy Education energy specialists to implement conservation procedures in all of the system's facilities. They conduct energy audits to ensure that students and faculty are comfortable during class times and scheduled activities, and that energy is used only as necessary. They work hard to motivate everyone in the organization to use energy wisely, keep classrooms comfortable, and practice smart energy strategies.

Energy Education's innovative Transformational Energy Management[®] process trains client personnel to implement behavioral and organizational change that substantially reduces energy consumption without the purchase of new equipment. The program is funded solely and rapidly by the savings it generates, allowing clients to redirect saved energy dollars to other priorities. In 25 years, Energy Education has worked with more than 1,100 educational and ministry organizations, helping clients save over \$2.5 billion in utility costs. Energy Education has been recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Energy with their highest honor, the 2011 Energy Star Award for Sustained Excellence. This award follows the receipt of the Partner of the Year award.