



Blazing New Trails: Schools Take a Closer Look at Their Energy Use

Thirty-six Ohio schools (some private, some elementary, some junior high schools) are complementing their energy and science curriculums with the installation of a PV array - creating exciting, hands-on opportunities for kids to learn about school energy use, renewable power, electricity generation and energy policy issues. (See accompanying list of the 36 schools in Ohio.)

One benefit of installing an array and integrating it as a teaching tool in the curriculum is better student performance. Bluffview Elementary in Worthington was the first Ohio school to install a PV array. The school administration has credited part of the improved science and math proficiency test scores by fourth and sixth grade students to the solar array and accompanying curriculum improvements.

The Ohio Department of Development's Office of Energy Efficiency (OEE) supports these solar schools with a \$3000 grant to offset the cost of buying and installing an array. OEE is committed to reducing energy use and supporting renewable energy. In conjunction with partners like the Foundation for Environmental Education, school districts and their communities, the United States Department of Energy's Million Solar Roof Initiative (MSRI) and local electric utilities, more and more Ohio schools are

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| Granville ES | Granville SD | Granville |
| The Welsh Hills School | Private | Granville |
| Hudson Middle School | Hudson City Schools | Hudson |
| Stanton Middle School | Kent City Schools | Kent |
| North Middle School | Lima City Schools | Lima |
| Union Local ES | Union Local Schools | Morristown |
| New Albany Schools Nature Preserve | New Albany- Plain Local SD | New Albany |
| Prospect Elementary School | Oberlin City SD | Oberlin |
| Orrville High School | Orrville City School | Orrville |
| Harvest Christian Academy | Private | Portsmouth |
| Franciscan Univ. of Steubenville | **University | Steubenville |
| Harrison Street Elementary | Big Walnut | Sunbury |
| Mark Twain ES | Westerville | Westerville |
| Longfellow ES | Westerville City SD | Westerville |
| Wheelersburg Jr High | Wheelersburg Local Schools | Wheelersburg |
| Wilson Hill Elementary School | Worthington Schools | Worthington |
| Bluffsview Elementary | Worthington Schools | Worthington |
| Worthingway MS | Worthington Schools | Worthingway |