From the Program Manager: KEEPS Resources to Energize Energy Teams

By Fred Byrd
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In last month's KEEPS Moving Forward, I offered a few suggestions about what your school district energy team can do to prepare for the new academic year. To build on those suggestions, KEEPS developed a web page, which points to specific KEEPS resources that will put your energy team on the fast track to realizing cost savings through improved energy performance.

"Set the Pace for Your Energy Management Program" is available on the KEEPS website. The web page includes KEEPS resources that will help your energy team measure progress toward energy management goals, raise awareness about energy program initiatives throughout the school district, determine how the program will evolve over the short- and long-term and get recognized for program successes.

Don't Forget These KEEPS Resources

Over the past few months, KEEPS has developed several materials to facilitate school districts' progress through the Energy Star energy management framework. Use these resources to take ownership of your energy management program and realize the benefits of best energy management practices.

- The KEEPS Training System includes more than 120 downloadable presentations, energy assessment tools, worksheets, templates and other materials.

- The KEEPS Webinar Series features training on how to use resources from KEEPS and its partner organizations. Webinars also showcase school districts that have realized success through the Energy Star framework.

- The KEEPS Awards and Recognition Program is a great opportunity for school districts to celebrate school district energy program achievements, validate program efforts and
Send us your KEEPS Kudos

Has your school or school district realized success through best energy management practices? Great! Use the KEEPS Kudos Form to share the good news, and your KEEPS Kudos may appear in an upcoming issue of KEEPS Moving Forward, on the KEEPS Facebook Page or on the KEEPS website.

Questions? Comments? Contact KEEPS.

Fayette County Public School District is First to Earn KEEPS Champion Award

Fayette County Public Schools (FCPS) was presented with the KEEPS Champion Award at the district's August 22 board of education meeting. The KEEPS Champion Award is the second of a three-tiered KEEPS Awards and Recognition Program, which recognizes school districts that commit to reducing operational costs through best energy management practices. FCPS is the first Kentucky school district to earn the KEEPS Champion Award. The district was awarded the KEEPS Stewardship Award for its energy-saving initiatives in May 2011.

At the KEEPS Champion Award presentation were, from left, KEEPS Regional Coordinator Erika Wolfe, KEEPS Program Manager Fred Byrd, FCPS Board Members Doug Barnett, Melissa Bacon and Amanda Ferguson, District Energy Manager Britney Thompson, Acting Superintendent and COO Mary Wright, Energy Curriculum Coordinator Tresine Logsdon and Board Members Daryl Love and John Price.

"It's no surprise that Fayette County Public Schools is the first to earn the KEEPS Champion Award," said KEEPS Program Manager Fred Byrd. "The school district's E=USE2 program is one of the best energy-saving initiatives in the Commonwealth. Involvement from everyone, from faculty and students to senior administration, is key to the district's ongoing success."

To earn the KEEPS Champion Award, FCPS conducted energy assessments of district-owned facilities, established an energy performance goal, developed an energy management action plan, continued its efforts to raise awareness about energy-saving activities throughout the district, and maintained consistent energy performance tracking standards. Representatives from the district's energy team attended various training sessions to learn more about best energy management practices.

In addition to earning the KEEPS Champion Award, the school district received honors from the Kentucky Chapter of the National Energy Education Development Project and Kentucky Green & Healthy Schools for its energy management and environmental sustainability initiatives.

Learn more about Fayette County Public Schools E=USE2 program.
Learn More about the KEEPS Awards and Recognition Program.

More Great News From FCPS
On Thursday, August 11, FCPS opened the doors to its new Wellington Elementary School. The new school was built with several energy-efficient features, and energy efficiency and environmental sustainability will be integrated into the school's curriculum.

Read more on Kentucky.com.

U.S. Representative Ben Chandler and Lexington Mayor Jim Gray were among those who attended a September 2 event that celebrated Rosa Parks Elementary School's recent Energy Star designation. Energy-saving initiatives have reduced the school's energy consumption by 47 percent and saved more than $52,000 in utility costs.

Read more about the event on Fayette County Public Schools website.

Millbrooke Elementary School Celebrates 100th Energy Star Designation

Christian County Public Schools held a special celebration on August 16 at Millbrooke Elementary School to honor the school's designation as Kentucky's 100th Energy Star-labeled school. Kentucky First Lady Jane Beshear was the keynote speaker at the event, which also recognized the school district's other Energy Star-labeled schools: Belmont Elementary, Indian Hills Elementary and Lacy Elementary.

"I'm happy today to recognize Millbrooke and the other Christian County schools for joining this select group and am so proud of our students and their districts for cutting energy usage," said Beshear.

![Riley Fort, a 5th-grade student at Millbrooke Elementary School, hosted a "news special" about the school's energy-saving initiatives with Kentucky First Lady Jane Beshear as her special guest.](image)

"Students have always been our first priority in Christian County," said Christian County Public Schools Energy Manager Bob Valentine. "By using our resources wisely now, we are setting an example that will reap the benefits for years to come."
See more pictures from the celebration on the KEEPS Facebook page.
Read more about the event on the Kentucky News Era.

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**KEEPS Kudos and Newsmakers**

**New Hybrid School Buses for Bardstown Independent Schools and Barren County Public Schools**
- The Kentucky Standard
- Glasgow Daily Times

**Henderson County Public Schools Seek Break from KU Rate Increase**
- The Gleaner

**Energy Efficiency Helps Shelby County Public Schools Offset Utility Costs**
- Sentinel News

**Crittenden County Elementary School Wins Recycling Contest**
- WPSD Channel 6

**Carroll County Public Schools Makes Gains on Energy Expenses**
- Madison Courier

**Five Anderson County School Buildings Earn Energy Star Designation**
- Anderson County Public Schools Website

**New Energy Star Partners**
Casey County Public Schools and Williamsburg Independent Schools recently became Energy Star partners for their commitment to best energy management practices.

There are 114 K-12 Energy Star Partners and 106 K-12 Energy Star-labeled facilities in Kentucky.

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Events and Training Opportunities
Kentucky NEED Fall 2012 Energy Workshops
September - November 2012

The Kentucky NEED Project recently announced the fall energy workshop schedule for K-12 educators interested in learning more about NEED's multi-disciplinary energy education program. These one-day workshops are free, and substitute reimbursement is provided. Following are dates and locations for workshops scheduled in September. A complete listing is available at www.need.org/states/kentucky. For questions, contact Karen Reagor at kreasor@need.org.

September 14 - Murray
September 20 - Morehead
September 21 - London
September 22 - Georgetown
September 27 - Hartford
September 28 - Erlanger

Kentucky Governor's Conference on Energy and the Environment
September 26-27
Lexington, Kentucky

Join the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet for the annual Governor's Conference on Energy and the Environment. Event details and registration information are available on the Cabinet's website.

Green-Living Symposium
September 28
Maple Mount, Kentucky

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) is partnering with sponsors from across the region to present the first ever Green Living Symposium at Mount St. Joseph in Daviess County. The goal of the symposium is to educate local government, business/industry, organizations and individuals about their environmental sustainability initiatives. KPPC's Executive Director Cam Metcalf will be the keynote speaker at the event, which will feature information sessions led by industry experts, exhibitors, demonstrations and door prizes. Details are available on the Green River Area District Development website.