

VEEP's Green Schools Program

Grade Level: 7 – 12 (Can be a class, club or interest-group project)

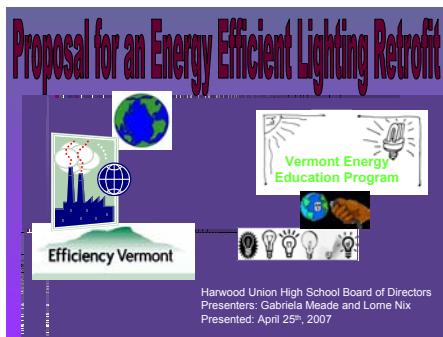
Time Commitment for Teacher: Varies according to teacher's plans

Time Commitment for Classroom: Varies according to scope of project

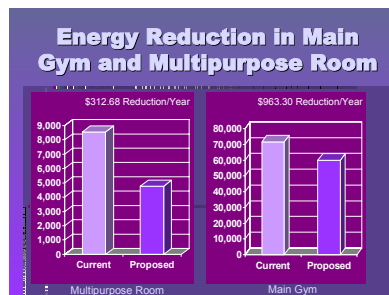
A **Green Schools** project provides an educational experience for teachers and students through discovery, analysis and implementation of an energy efficiency retrofit at the school. It is an opportunity for students to work on real-world problems with the assistance of those who actually do energy efficiency work. To kick off the project, VEEP staff will bring the "Electricity and the Environment" presentation to the classroom. A Green Schools Team is required, including teacher(s), students, an administrator, a facilities staff person, VEEP educator, and a school energy specialist from Efficiency Vermont. This team will do a "walk through" of the building to identify possible energy efficiency projects for students to investigate.



The specific energy efficiency opportunity for students to work with is identified by the Team. Students will learn how the existing system uses as much energy as it does, what more efficient options are and how these options save energy. Students will evaluate the energy savings and costs of more efficient technologies, and select a recommended approach. Students, VEEP and Efficiency Vermont will follow up with school personnel, teachers and students to encourage implementation of the project.



Students present an oral, visual and written proposal to the school board, including estimated retrofit costs, incentives EVT may offer to the school for the retrofit, the projected savings in the school's electric utility bill, rate of return on the investment, and added or reduced maintenance costs. Savings are expressed in terms of energy cost savings to the school and reduction of CO2 emissions. Projects can involve behavioral changes don't cost any money and require time to get everyone to learn expectations of behavior and savings.



The school is not committed to implementing the recommendations. However, many schools find the efficiency measures financially attractive, particularly with incentives from Efficiency Vermont.

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