

Cenergistic®

CASE STUDY

"Working with a company like Cenergistic to dramatically reduce our energy consumption is critical to the financial success of our school district. Ultimately, the success of this program will enable us to close our funding gaps, continue our path of raising compensation, and key programming important to student achievement."

Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee,
IPS Superintendent

Why Indianapolis Public Schools Chose Cenergistic to Achieve \$7.5M Savings

SUMMARY

Due to decreasing taxpayer funding, Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) found themselves in a budget deficit. To properly sustain the district's 12 special academic and educational programs, a significant enrollment increase and ensure all necessary supplies and technology for classrooms, they needed a large amount of additional funding. **On a mission to save millions of dollars to realign the budget, IPS partnered with Cenergistic to implement our Sustainability Program, in which they plan to save \$7.5M in utility costs over the course of its 5 year contract.** Upon contracting with Cenergistic, three primary energy program goals were set: to improve and maintain building comfort, to save money and use those found resources efficiently, and to instill a culture of sustainability and behavioral change among staff and students.

CHALLENGE

Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) serves over 30,000 students in 70 unique schools and programs, with 4,500 staff members. **IPS, like many other urban districts, found themselves in a budget deficit** due to decreasing taxpayer funding, resulting in a lack of supplies for classrooms, outdated equipment and technology, and hiring and compensation freezes. Additional funding was also needed due to a significant enrollment increase over the past few years and to properly sustain 12 special academic models launched throughout the district, including STEM, International Baccalaureate®, Dual-Language Immersion, Montessori and Arts & Sciences.

They knew they needed to save millions of dollars to realign the budget as well as place into student programs, tools and technology, teacher compensation and sustainability efforts. **But... how?**

DECISION

To address the budget deficit that needed to be quickly turned around and sustain their district's mission to tailor educational needs to each of their students, **IPS Superintendent Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee knew he needed an innovative solution that would require no capital investment.**

Dr. Ferebee and his staff did research and **discovered Cenergistic to be a leader in the industry of sustainability and energy conservation**, and followed up with other Cenergistic clients in which they received positive reviews. They learned Cenergistic's program would deploy a full-time onsite Energy Specialist as well as highly-skilled engineers and M&V analysts equipped with cloud-based machine-learning software to monitor and control facility environments, ensuring all systems & equipment are running efficiently.

Dr. Lewis Ferebee then chose to partner with Cenergistic. The program began June 1, 2018 across IPS.

IMPACT

COST SAVINGS:

The energy and cost savings achieved through Cenergistic's program will be helpful as IPS asks taxpayers to approve increased funding to better meet the needs of the district, such as increasing teacher compensation and special academic programs, as well as enhancing safety and security of buildings throughout the district. In turn, **IPS will become better stewards of taxpayer dollars, natural resources, and most importantly, be able to fund the necessary programs and areas which additional funds are required to sustain.**



"I'm confident we're going to be able to utilize the resources they bring to save the district and taxpayers critical capital and general fund dollars. I'm excited about what I've seen them do with other clients across the country. They're a good firm with a strong, proven track record and the success they've generated at other locations is an encouraging indicator for the success we'll achieve."

Scott Martin, IPS Deputy Superintendent for Operations

COMFORT:

Maintaining comfort in classrooms in a large district like IPS is no easy task. That's why Cenergistic engineers and experts work closely with the onsite energy specialist and other IPS personnel. **Equipped with our cloud-based machine-learning software, energy specialists are made aware of energy inefficiencies in real-time which allows almost immediate correction and allows audit and optimization of energy-using system much simpler.** This ensures classroom comfort, which is top priority for Cenergistic and their clients.

CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY:

Partnering with Cenergistic is one of many steps IPS is taking to **instill a culture of sustainability and lessen the cost of energy consumption**, including a robust recycling program currently in effect and plans to implement LED lighting. District officials also have the goal of improving their green metrics, helping them to earn Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ENERGY STAR® achievements, and **instill the importance of energy conservation into the minds of staff and students for a more sustainable future.**