Cenergistic

CASE STUDY

San Bernardino City Unified School District Renews Partnership with Cenergistic to Continue Funding Student Programs Through Reduction in Energy Spend

SUMMARY

San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD) partnered with Cenergistic in May of 2012 to implement a five-year sustainability program that achieved \$20M in utility savings. Building off the program's success, the district renewed its partnership with Cenergistic in 2017 for a subsequent five-year term. **Since the renewal, SBCUSD has continued to reduce energy consumption yielding total cost savings of \$29M+.**

San Bernardino Renewed with Cenergistic to Continue Achieving Success in Three Critical Areas:

- **1.** Improving and maintaining building comfort for occupants
- **2.** Reducing utility spend through a reduction in energy consumption
- **3.** Reallocating dollars otherwise spent on utilities to further increase teacher salaries & continue funding student programs

DISTRICT CHALLENGE



"If you're questioning the value of this program, all you have to do is come ask us.

We'll show you where we began, compared to after incorporating Cenergistic's program and the millions of dollars we are now able to place directly into student achievement and student engagement activities. Pretty fundamental."

Michael J. Gallo, San Bernardino City Unified School District Board Member



In 2012, SBCUSD had 52,3870 students and 65 campuses. **They needed to lower and control future energy costs with the goal of placing those millions of savings back into student programs.** SBCUSD Superintendent Dale Marsden set a lofty goal: in three years, every student in the district would be on a career path called Education Pathways. The mission was to develop college, career and technical approaches to learning, and transform **existing high schools into Linked Learning Academies based on a STEM model. SBCUSD quickly needed dollars to fill funding gaps to expand career pathways programs in its eight high schools.**

District officials were tasked with finding an innovative solution that required no up-front cost or capital expenditure and reduced spend while still maintaining the growth of the Pathways Program. **Cenergistic's Sustainability Program was the perfect match for SBCUSD.**



PARTNERSHIP DECISION

SBCUSD partnered with Cenergistic in 2012 to implement a sustainability solution in an effort to preserve natural resources, increase energy conservation awareness, create a quality learning environment for students through comfort control and save dollars on utility bills to reinvest in students through the Pathways Program.

The district now has access to Cenergistic's new software application, GreenX[™]. Using GreenX[™] the Energy Specialists and SBCUSD facilities staff gain access to real-time energy analytics and alerts on negatively performing utility meters. GreenX[™] allows the Energy Specialists to quickly identify opportunities to eliminate energy waste, predict and resolve maintenance issues, and optimize all systems and equipment throughout the district. The SBCUSD team also receives remote and onsite support from Cenergistic's Center of Excellence (COE) including engineers specializing in HVAC, irrigation, solar energy, humidity management and more.

IMPACT

COST SAVINGS:



Energy use in the program's first five years was reduced from 62 kBtu per square foot to 38 kBtu per square foot. Since renewing with Cenergistic in 2017, the program's energy use is now the lowest it has ever been, under 29 kBtu per square foot. The financials have exceeded original savings projections: delivering **more than \$29.7M in savings, cutting expected energy costs by 28.2%.** With the massive saving of funds and reallocation to key students' programs such as Education Pathways, SBCUSD's **graduation rates continue to climb,** and have now surpassed the statewide graduation rate **by more than 8%**.

COMFORT:



In 2012, at the start of SBCUSD and Cenergistic's partnership, SBCUSD served more than 52,370 students at its 65 campuses. **The district is growing day-over-day and today, serves more than 53,027 students at 72 campuses.** Maintaining comfort in classrooms in a county of this size is no easy task. Cenergistic engineers and experts were challenged from day one to provide a customized energy conservation program that focused on organizational and behavioral change to preserve a quality learning environment for the district's children. **Through the implementation of Cenergistic's Sustainability Program, comfort complaints have decreased, and the number of award-winning schools and programs has increased.** The changes in comfort control in the classroom have positively impacted SBCUSD's quality of education as well as graduation rates among students.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



PASSENGER CARS NOT DRIVEN FOR ONE YEAR

7,450



tree seedlings grown for ten years 916,919



A MOVEMENT IN SUSTAINABILITY:

SBCUSD joined the Cenergistic movement in sustainability in 2012. It's what we believe in, it's how we think. We instill "green" behavior into the DNA of the districts we serve for a lasting impact on many generations to come. The program at SBCUSD has gone beyond the classroom into the homes of students who are embracing sustainability principles to preserve our precious natural resources and cherish our planet. By engaging administration, staff, students and the surrounding community, SBCUSD leadership and the Cenergistic team, together, have made the environment a priority.

ENERGY STAR[®] CERTIFICATIONS



67 out of 72 SBCUSD campuses have earned national recognition by receiving ENERGY STAR® certifications,

awarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which designates them among the top 25% of energy-efficient buildings nationwide. SBCUSD has become a better steward of natural resources and taxpayer dollars, maintaining proper control of its buildings and walking the walk of sustainability, thanks to Cenergistic.

Cenergistic

For more information about Cenergistic sustainability services:

www.cenergistic.com