



DSBN Energy Savings Tops \$79,100

The combined expertise of CUPE Local 4156 members, educators, students and plant department personnel at the District School Board of Niagara, resulted in a savings of \$79,100 in energy savings at DSBN schools. Close to 50% of DSBN Schools have been able to reduce their energy consumption. As a reward, 25% of those savings will be rebated to the 55 schools who were able to reduce their energy use.

New initiatives this year increased student involvement in the process. A curriculum unit, *Let's be DSBN Powerwise*, was developed and asked students to assess their classrooms in terms of energy use and cost and provide suggestions for improvement. Discussions about the impact of energy use on society and the environment were incorporated into the unit.

The DSBN Energy Conservation Committee also created a School Conservation Energy Package that provides principals, support staff, teachers and students with practical steps to improve school energy savings and an energy conservation newsletter to celebrate individual school successes, and inform about the latest energy retrofits for schools, and board initiatives.

In total, DSBN schools across the region saved over eight hundred thousand kilowatt hours of electricity. That's more than enough energy to power a high school for an entire year or an elementary school for almost four years. The best performing schools were **Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School** and **Westdale Public School**. The most improved schools were *Cherrywood Acres* and *E. L. Crossley Secondary Schools*.

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