

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



Douglass High School
"Home of the Red Devils"
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*The School of Public Service
and
Communication Arts*



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www.tp3.org

Douglass High School Saves Energy

<http://douglasshighschoolmemphistn.weebly.com>

The Member

It's hard to separate Douglass High School from Douglass the North Memphis neighborhood. The school was rebuilt 3 years ago, and is hope and anchor to the community's heritage and alumni support. Douglass High School (DHS), the School of Public Service and Communication Arts, is a part of the Memphis City Schools District and is located in the highly industrialized northeast region of Memphis, TN. Douglass High School is the green jewel of the community with an enrollment of nearly seven hundred students. Douglass High School is two Green Schools in one: the leading TP3 Green School in Memphis, and one of forty of the Alliance to Save Energy Green Schools in the nation.

Being Student Energy Auditor Trainees, S.E.A.T., gives Freshman Academy students first-hand experience analyzing how energy is used at their school. Students are learning about many aspects of energy efficiency and energy auditing and are having a chance to conduct real audits in their school. The building is the "new teacher" at our school. When our students conduct energy patrols in search of wasted kilowatts, they become super-heroes, aka, the Watt Busters!

The Story

The Watt Busters are patrolling Douglass High School, and they're handing out tickets to energy wasters, thereby teaching students and teachers how to save energy. By turning off lights and unplugging computers, Douglass High School freshman are learning energy-saving lessons.

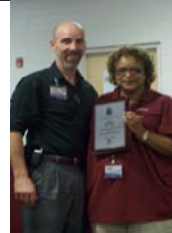
The Watt Buster's public service contributions are creatively conducted through educational outreach and environmental service learning projects. The Watt Busters promote green sustainable practices throughout the city. They were last seen at the Mayor's Green Up Memphis Festival, helping to make the event litter free. People say: "They are here and they are there. The Watt Busters are everywhere!"

The Success

The school is following these energy saving plans:

- School conducts holiday shut-downs by unplugging all unneeded equipment.
- Thermostats are lowered in the winter and raised in the summer; they are manually adjusted every night and on weekends.
- Lights, electronics, and computers are to be turned off when leaving the classroom and at the end of the day.
- *Green the wing*, all lights are cut off by wing during lunch (school goes to lunch by wing).
- Heating and cooling exchanges are maintained annually.
- The next project is a climate study on the building.

The Watt Busters 2009 – 2010



Anthony Wright, MCS Facilities Manager, & Sandra Upchurch, Science Department Chair, celebrate winning the Best Green School Website Contest!



Freshman Watt Busters use meters to evaluate energy efficiency of light bulbs during surveys of their building.

The Pollution Prevented

From 9/1/2009 to 10/31/2010

Energy Cost Savings: \$14,906
School Earnings (20% of Savings): \$2,981
Usage savings: 171,320 kWh.

Carbon Footprint Removed from our
Energy Savings= 234,708 lbs of CO2 emissions
(1 kWh = 1.37 lbs. of CO2)

Through basic changes in the operations, maintenance, and individual behavior, Douglass High School has achieved reductions in energy use of six percent.

Tara Wohlgemuth, Local Project Leader, Alliance to Save Energy

February 2011