



RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE – ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RETROFIT PROJECT

December 16, 2015

Rescue Union School District is proud to announce the completion of its Energy Efficiency and Lighting Retrofit Project. The District partnered with NORESKO, a national leader in energy efficiency and energy infrastructure solutions, and has completed and implemented nearly \$3 million in energy improvements to all seven schools in the Rescue Union School District. The comprehensive lighting and controls project was completed in October of 2015. In addition, with over \$788,000 of funding support from Proposition 39, the California Clean Energy Jobs Act, the district will realize even greater savings.

The District's investment of \$2.2 million for the project will generate savings of \$3.6 million in future energy costs over the life of the equipment and will improve learning environments for the District's seven K-8 schools serving 3,700 students. The retrofits make Rescue Union School District one of the first in California to upgrade lighting to LED technology throughout its facilities. Moreover, this upgrade exceeds the requirements of the state's 2013 Title 24 standards, which set energy efficiency regulations for buildings.

"By committing to these kinds of sizable, deep retrofits, Rescue Union is taking the commitment to energy efficiency to the next level, which benefits students, teachers and staff," said Rob Reading, account executive, NORESKO. "These improvements position the school system for classroom improvements, reduced maintenance requirements and long-term cost savings."

"Educating for the Future Together"

David Swart, Superintendent

Board of Trustees

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The California Clean Energy Jobs Act, also known as Proposition 39, made up to \$550 million available annually until 2018 for appropriation by the legislature for eligible projects to improve energy efficiency and expand clean energy generation in schools.

The Rescue Union School District's commitment to environmental and fiscal stewardship through energy efficiency predates the passage of Proposition 39. School leaders recognized that the combination of Proposition 39 funds and the district's available resources could enable more robust and comprehensive improvements within the District and that NORESKO could help the school system expedite results.

Specific benefits from the project, in addition to building retrofits, include standardization across interior and exterior lighting equipment, long-term reductions to operating budgets for more predictable planning, upgrades and consistency across building controls systems for improved efficiency, and replacement of selected heating, ventilating and air-conditioning components that are failing or unreliable.

"Proposition 39 is a catalyst for California's school leaders to move energy-efficiency improvements even higher on the priority list," said David Swart, Superintendent of the Rescue Union School District. "NORESKO facilitated our delivery of a five-year energy expenditure plan for the District to the California Energy Commission and by embracing these upgrades, the District will receive ongoing energy savings and helped create more jobs in our community in the spirit of Proposition 39."

Based on the five-year plan submitted, the savings from the project are expected to be nearly five times the total Proposition 39 allocation.