



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Energy Efficient Improvements Move
Eminence Community School Corp. to Head of the Class**
- School Anticipated to Save \$30,000 in Annual Energy Costs -

Eminence, Ind., June 22, 2009 — Education leaders at Eminence Community School Corp. recently earned an “A” in energy efficiency. They completed upgrades that make the school more energy efficient and create an optimal learning environment.

With portions of the school dating back to 1931, improvements at the school were required to replace aging and outdated infrastructure systems. Additionally, inconsistent temperatures throughout the building were creating a challenging learning and teaching environment.

To address, this, in April 2008, the school undertook \$1.3 million in infrastructure improvements. Completed in December 2008, the improvements are anticipated to save the school \$30,000 in annual energy costs with an expected payback of 10 years or less.

“This past winter and spring, we were so pleased to see how much students enjoyed learning in a more comfortable environment,” said Dr. Susan Phillips, who will be retiring from her role as superintendent on June 30, 2009. “While it’s difficult to step down from my role, I take great satisfaction in being part of the team that helped create a more efficient school and most importantly, the best possible learning environment for Eminence students today – and in all the school days ahead.”

The project was funded by a performance contract, which is a package of products and services customized to building requirements to deliver significant energy and operating cost reductions.

Eminence Receiving an Award for Energy Leadership

In recognition of the importance of these upgrades and Eminence Community School Corp.’s commitment to energy efficiency and to reduction of its environmental footprint, Eminence Community School Corp. has earned the “**Trane Energy Efficiency Leader in Education Award**” for its sustainable energy and operational efficiency improvements.

Details of the award presentation:

- Dave Sommer, business leader for Trane in Indiana, will present the award to Dr. Susan Phillips, superintendent of Eminence Community School Corp
- Awards presentation will be at **9:30 a.m.** on June 25 in the lobby of **Eminence High School, 6760 State Rd. 42 N.** in Eminence, Ind.

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Eminence Community School Corp. Improvements – 2

The Energy Efficiency Leader in Education Award honors a school that has completed building improvements that optimize the teaching and learning environment and increase operational efficiency.

Creating the Best Possible Learning Environment

When education leaders initiated the project for the combined elementary, middle and high school building, they selected customized solutions after carefully reviewing options that would allow them to save energy while creating the best possible environment for students. A recent study in *Educational Facility Planner Report* found a direct correlation between classroom environmental conditions and student performance.

Completed infrastructure improvements at the school include upgraded high efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) controls for improved energy efficiency and more consistent temperatures throughout the building. For greater flexibility where needed, the upgraded controls allow for customized temperature adjustments in individual classrooms.

The gymnasium's dim lighting was made brighter while decreasing energy used. Upgrades to the gym also included a high-efficiency air conditioning system and more energy-efficient air handling and exhaust fan systems for greater student comfort. Other energy efficiency improvements include new windows and doors.

The performance contracting process in Indiana also allows for a small percentage of funding to be allocated for cosmetic improvements, so new flooring was added to the gym, the locker room, the main entrance and the back hallway.

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About Eminence Community School Corp.

The oldest building at Eminence Community School Corp. dates to 1931. The district's schools, including the elementary and junior/senior high school, serve approximately 550 students from Morgan County, Indiana.

About Trane

Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand, improves the performance of homes and buildings around the world. Trane solutions optimize indoor environments with a broad portfolio of energy-efficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, building and contracting services, parts support and advanced controls for homes and commercial buildings. For more information, visit www.trane.com.

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