

ANDREW H. WILSON ELEMENTARY

Energy Smart Case Study



Energy costs are often the second-largest expenditure in schools today. With school operating budgets shrinking and electrical demand increasing, it's imperative that schools find ways to effectively manage their utility costs and improve comfort for their students and staff.

Andrew H. Wilson Elementary, located in the Broadmoor neighborhood of New Orleans, Louisiana, found a cost-effective solution to manage their utility expenses. The school partnered with Energy Smart, Entergy New Orleans' energy efficiency program, to get the necessary financial incentives needed to install a new Building Automation/HVAC Controls system. With the help of Energy Smart incentives, the school had zero out-of-pocket costs and will see significant cost savings year over year.



“At the conclusion of the BAS and controls upgrades at Andrew Wilson Elementary School, we expected to see some cost savings. When our July bill arrived, it was 50% less than last July’s bill. The first month, I wrote off as an anomaly. Then August showed a 50% reduction – as did September, October and every month following. We saved \$100,000 in electrical costs by taking advantage of the Energy Smart program.”

Sam Bear, Director of Facilities, InspireNOLA Charter Schools

BACKGROUND

Andrew H. Wilson Elementary is one of the seven schools managed by InspireNOLA Charter Schools. The school, currently serving around 700 students, was one of the first schools in New Orleans to be renovated after Hurricane Katrina as part of the New Orleans Recovery School District's Quickstart School program. The aging building, built in the 1930s, underwent renovations that included adding a new wing, cafeteria and larger gymnasium footprint. The school was experiencing very high utility costs per square foot. The classrooms, cafeteria, gymnasium and offices had individual thermostats that were not controlled by a central HVAC Control system. Teachers and staff were able to control their individual thermostats, resulting in temperatures varying throughout the building footprint and making it difficult for facility management to control the energy usage throughout the school.

Partnering with Energy Smart and trade ally Synergy Building Solutions, Sam Bear, Director of Facilities for InspireNOLA Charter Schools, completed a Building Automations System/HVAC Controls installation in 2019. This system gives facility management the ability to stage when the HVAC system will operate and gives teachers a temperature range between 70-78s in their classrooms. This energy efficiency upgrade, funded 100% by the Energy Smart program, saved Andrew H. Wilson Elementary \$100,000 in energy savings in the first year.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS	
Gross Project Cost	\$33,480
Energy Smart Incentive	\$33,480
Net Project Cost	\$0
kWh Savings	405,248 kW
Cost Savings 1st Year	\$100,000

“The \$100,000 saved on our Entergy New Orleans utility bill in the first year of completing this project with Energy Smart allows InspireNOLA and Andrew H. Wilson to reallocate dollars back into the classrooms, directly impacting the students they serve.”

Sam Bear, Director of Facilities, InspireNOLA Charter Schools



For information about this and other Energy Smart offerings, visit energysmartnola.com, email info@energysmartnola.com or call **504-229-6868**.