Mt. Edgecumbe High School
Sitka, Alaska
We’re saving a ton of money. We have significant fuel savings, and maintenance costs are way down. When you consider that we completed these projects on a condensed timeline—within two years instead of four—the payback is that much faster and more attractive. From an operational standpoint, we’ve been able to avoid two years of inflation, fluctuating energy prices, lost fuel, and maintenance costs.”

— Stan Johnson, Facility Manager, Mt. Edgecumbe High School

Our energy efficiency plan was designed to provide the best possible scope of work for both MEHS and the State of Alaska. The Siemens team worked closely with us to maximize the budget the Department of Education had available in order to address the school’s urgent deferred maintenance concerns, followed by energy efficiency improvements to the campus as a whole. Siemens was very patient and flexible, working closely with us to minimize the construction phase. Instead of demolishing and replacing each boiler one by one, Siemens took the time to reconfigure the mechanical space layout, which increased the facilities space in the shop work space, once the old system was removed.

Through the IGA process, Siemens estimated that the Phase 1 Upper Campus Heating Plant improvement measures would combine to reduce MEHS’ energy and operational costs by more than $131,000 every year, including electricity, fuel oil, and associated maintenance savings. Siemens further calculated that MEHS would also reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 484,000 pounds—the equivalent of removing 46 passenger vehicles from the road every year.

Post-implementation measurement and verification found that MEHS’ actual savings exceeded initial expectations. The EEMs generated more than $155,000 in annual energy savings, and greenhouse gases were reduced by 620,000 pounds. Another substantial benefit to MEHS is the ability to reorganize the facilities staff’s workload to focus on more important campus facilities projects, instead of frequent “fire fighting” efforts to maintain the outdated heating system.

Siemens has estimated that the campus-wide improvements made during Phase 2 of this ESPC will generate the following additional annual savings for MEHS:

- Electricity savings of approximately $17,400, equal to 153,000 kWh.
- Fuel oil savings of more than $157,000, equal to 39,000 gallons.
- Operational and repair savings of approximately $60,000.
- Greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂) of 1.1 million pounds—the equivalent of about 180 tons of waste from a landfill.

On top of these savings that directly result from the work Siemens has completed, MEHS also reports a 45% electrical savings as well as a 40% reduction in the heating plant’s operation. These savings stem from the lighting system improvements implemented by Siemens.

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