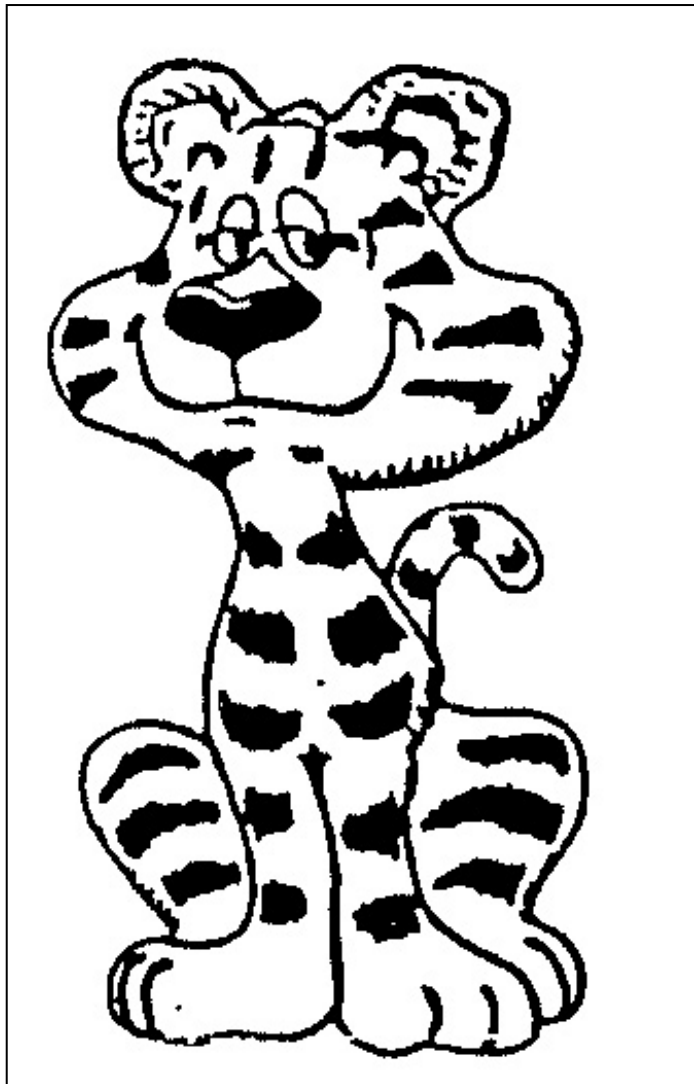


Cool School Action Plan
NR 734: Wisconsin Cool Schools

2004-2005



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Action Plan Summary

The purpose of our plan is to raise awareness of energy consumption practices at McKinley Elementary School. In order to do this, we plan to utilize both staff and students. First, we surveyed the building, looking for areas that could use improvement. Secondly, our finding and recommendations will be presented to the staff. The final step will be to get students involved in the implementation of our plan. We will also present to the Parent Teacher Organization “The Bright Idea” fundraising event that will raise the awareness of our student’s families and raise money for our building at the same time.

Introduction to the Audience

McKinley Elementary, Kenosha, Wisconsin, was built in 1950. Our building is 34,469 square feet. We are a two story, brick building that houses approximately 256 students and 45 staff members.

Statement of Problem

During our initial walk through of the building, we noticed several areas that could use improvement. We found that three doors in our building needed to have weather stripping installed around the door frame. The mail slot in the front of the building is always ajar, therefore letting air in and out of the building. The library air conditioner needs to have weather stripping put around it because there are gaps leading outside. In addition, we noticed doors and windows were being left open for extended periods of time, while the boilers were on. Many classroom lights are being left on while teachers and students are not in the room. While we were surveying the building, there was a staff meeting and several lights and a fan were left operating.

The temperature of the student’s bathrooms on the first floor were extremely warm. The staff bathroom on the first floor had one incandescent bulb and one compact fluorescent bulb. The upper staff bathroom had one incandescent bulb and not well lit. The head custodian is currently addressing the staff bathroom issues.

The refrigerator on the stage contained only some fruit in the refrigerator and a few sponges in the freezer.

Computers in classrooms being left on all night.

Our building's boilers are Peerless Package steam boilers. These type of boilers only have a life expectancy of ten years. Our boilers have been in use for much longer than that. While speaking with our Principal, he informed us that we will be getting a new boiler system in 2006.

The lights in the gym are HID fixtures that need to be replaced with more energy efficient fixtures.

Project Goals and Objectives

The specific goals of our action plan is to lower the energy costs by closing the doors, windows, and turning off lights when not in the room. Unplugging classroom refrigerators and personal appliances was addressed at a staff meeting. Addressing weather proofing issues, where needed, is also included in this goal. Computers being left on all the time, need to shut off at night. We would like to suggest that the PTO sponsor the "Bright Idea" fundraising event. This would include both parents and students in our action plan.

Methods and Timeline

We plan to implement our action plan immediately. We will involve students by having classroom teachers have students turn off the lights as they leave the classroom. In addition, students will be asked to shut the doors if they are the last to enter the building.

We will suggest that the doors and air conditioner will be properly weather stripped.

Bathroom lights are left on all day long and it would benefit our building to install occupancy sensors in the student's bathrooms. Eventually, we would like to see all classrooms with the occupancy sensors.

The custodian is already addressing the staff bathrooms with replacing the existing incandescent lights with compact fluorescent bulbs. He is also addressing the cracked window in the front entry.

The refrigerator on stage, we will suggest putting milk jugs filled with water in both the refrigerator and freezer compartments. Keeping them full would be more energy efficient and have no cost to the building.

Having the computer lab manager set the computers on energy saver, to come on at 7:30 and turn off at 3:30. This has already been done.

The bulb fundraiser and awareness will be brought up to the PTO at the February meeting.

Evaluation Criteria and Process

We will monitor and compare the utility information report provided to us by John Allen, Jr., Distribution and Utilities Manager for Kenosha Unified School District. We will post the utilities information reports in the teacher's lounge for the staff so they can see our current status on our energy conservation. This is the ultimate evaluation criteria.

Budget

Purchasing eight occupancy sensors at \$59.99 each for the eight student bathrooms. That would be a total of \$479.92 plus shipping and handling. A work order will be made out for the weather stripping for the doors. The weather stripping for the air conditioner will be purchased at Menards at a cost of about \$10.00.

Communication

Information will be shared with the staff during a staff meeting. Information will then filter to student through their active participation (i.e. last out, turn off the light/ last in, shut the door). Parents will be educated about energy through the fundraiser. Therefore, creating community awareness. We will also share our action plan with our classroom peers of the NR 734: Wisconsin Cool Schools School Building Energy efficiency class.