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**[princi\_elem] [principals] energy usage HELP!**

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**From :** Jon Lauch <lauch@4j.lane.edu>

Thu, May 31, 2012 03:10 PM

**Sender :** princi\_elem-bounces <princi\_elem-bounces@4j.lane.edu>**Subject :** [princi\_elem] [principals] energy usage HELP!**To :** principals@4j.lane.edu, directors <directors@4j.lane.edu>**Cc :** custod supe <custod\_supe@4j.lane.edu>, secretaries@4j.lane.edu

Dear Principals and Directors:

As many of you know, we asked custodians to conduct a "plug load" survey of personal "appliances" earlier this year in order to assess where we stand with the use of personal devices and appliances that impact our overall energy use for the district. In some cases the number of personal appliances/devices was pretty staggering. For example, there are a few elementary schools that have refrigerators in nearly every classroom (these small, personal refrigerators are particularly energy inefficient).

Since the plug loads (including computers, printers, copiers, etc.) can typically account for 10-15 percent of our total energy usage, curtailing or minimizing the use of these will reduce costs and put more resources into the classroom where it most directly benefits kids and teaching staff. I am asking for your help to reduce our energy consumption. We currently spend over \$1.1 million per year for electric power consumption. If we could cut our plug load modestly with minimal effort, by reducing the use of personal devices and appliances that do not have a direct relationship to instruction, it is estimated that we can save between \$30,000 and \$50,000 per year.

Please ask your staff to remove personal appliances and devices from the building as they leave for a much-deserved break and to not bring such items from home back into the building upon return. Specifically, we are attempting to target items such as refrigerators, microwave ovens, toaster ovens, hot plates (these are a safety concern), hot tea pots, coffee makers, and the like. We are not asking for removal of items that are used for instruction. Please also request that staff unplug devices such as printers, copiers, battery charging devices, clock radios, and such other devices that create "standby" or "phantom" loads even when not in use.

Facilities staff will be happy to retrieve any electric space heaters and to reallocate those as needed for unresolvable heating issues. We will also work with schools to locate additional refrigerators in your building as needed for convenient staff use, in order to reduce the sheer number of personal refrigerators.

Your cooperation regarding this effort is greatly appreciated.

Jon

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