



McKeesport Area School District

\$7.8 Million in Projected Energy and Operational Savings



In 1961, the main facility of McKeesport Area High School was completed without air conditioning. To provide healthy ventilation at the high school and across the district today, the community needed facility upgrades without sourcing new capital.

McKeesport Area School District (MASD) serves 3,200 students from Pre-K through 12th grade for the communities of McKeesport, Dravosburg, White Oak, Versailles, and South Versailles in western Pennsylvania.

CHALLENGE

Adding air conditioning to an aging high school facility that wasn't designed for it would require a custom facility retrofit. After multiple companies proposed expensive projects that did not meet community needs, McKeesport leadership sought out a creative option that would improve facilities for all of their students, across the district.

Did You Know?

Amid growing concerns about healthy ventilation in schools, a 2020 Government Accountability Office report found that 41% of K-12 public school districts need to update or replace HVAC systems.¹

SOLUTION

ABM was able to create a funding solution that not only improved HVAC systems for MASD schools, but also helped the district fund improvements to school lab spaces and athletic facilities. By creating \$7.8 million in energy and operating costs, the solution empowered MASD leaders to reallocate funds to learning environments.

"MASD utilized ABM to make much needed upgrades to several of our facilities," said Dr. Mark P. Holtzman, Jr., Superintendent of McKeesport Area School District. "Those improvements allow us to continue to provide a first-class experience on our campuses for our students and staff inside and outside of our classrooms."

- Dr. Mark P. Holtzman, Jr.
Superintendent of
McKeesport Area School
District

¹ <https://www.gao.gov/assets/710/707374.pdf>



Facility Solutions That Are Funding Solutions

ABM enabled the school system to invest in their schools without drawing new capital from the community. The Energy Performance Contracting Program creates energy and operational savings that can be redirected to facility needs and educational initiatives.

In addition to ventilation and lighting improvements throughout the district, the project helped district leaders achieve renovations to science labs, including safety equipment, and upgrade athletic facilities. A new track surface restored the district's eligibility to host WPIAL (Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League) events.

BENEFITS

The project provided upgrades for every school and McKeesport Stadium, helping to improve educational equity across the district. Highlights include the following energy conservation measures and upgrades for educational and athletic spaces:

- Adding air conditioning to McKeesport Area High School (MAHS), including on-site construction and piping required
- Installing new and upgraded building automation systems, including a web-based front-end and new controllers, valves, actuators, and sensors
- Renovating four science labs, including new lab hoods, fans, and duct work, new work surfaces, sinks, gas valves, and eyewash stations
- Replacing or upgrading HVAC assets, such as new split systems, rooftop units, and energy-saving variable frequency drives (VFDs)
- Upgrading boiler plants, including boiler and domestic water heater replacements
- Installing a new pool heater rated for 98% thermal efficiency
- Retrofitting and replacing lighting with efficient LED technology
- Replacing oversized transformers with new, energy-efficient transformers and installing capacitor banks for power factor correction
- Installing water conservation for each school, including repairs to the rainwater harvesting system at Twin Rivers Elementary
- Providing computer power management software throughout the district, including technical support and updates
- Renovating MAHS and McKeesport Stadium locker rooms including plumbing and piping, locker replacements, flooring upgrades and wall repairs
- Repairing and weatherproofing stadium facilities, including bleachers and fencing
- Repairing exterior windows and damaged interior walls at Founders Hall Middle School
- Installing new control systems to operate existing geothermal systems efficiently at Twin Rivers Elementary

About ABM

ABM (NYSE: ABM) is a leading provider of facility services in the United States and various international locations. ABM's comprehensive capabilities include janitorial, electrical & lighting, energy solutions, facilities engineering, HVAC & mechanical, landscape & turf, mission critical solutions and parking, provided through stand-alone or integrated solutions. ABM provides custom facility solutions in urban, suburban and rural areas to properties of all sizes - from schools and commercial buildings to hospitals, data centers, manufacturing plants and airports. ABM Industries Incorporated, which operates through its subsidiaries, was founded in 1909. For more information, visit ABM.com.



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