



## Back to School:

# HOW TO COMBAT RISING UTILITY COSTS



While a new school year marks the end of summer, many districts are facing rising utility costs as students, staff, and teachers return to their classrooms. As utility rates increase to historical highs and continue to rise, it is imperative to take action and protect your budgets. Implementing simple energy conservation habits reduces environmental impact and lowers utility costs, allowing schools to maintain their budgets and allocate more resources to education.



### Keep Your Cool

- Standardize heating/ cooling setpoints 5° F apart allowing for minor occupant adjustments.
- Recommend 68° F heating +/-2° F and 73° F cooling +/-2° F.
- Adjust thermostats when leaving a room.
- Heating at 55° F, cooling at 85° F. (for humidity sensitive areas 75° F cooling recommended).
- Schedule systems for unoccupancy around bell schedules and facility use.
- Keep doors and windows closed when heating/air conditioning systems are running.
- Close your blinds, windows, and doors at the end of the day to help keep the room cool.
- Monitor your systems closely to make sure your back-to-school HVAC schedules are working correctly.



### Shed Some Light

- Turn off interior lights when a room is unoccupied.
- Ensure exterior lights remain off during daylight hours.
- Ensure major lighting powered areas such as field/stadiums and gyms are only used when needed. This can save a lot of money.
- Utilize natural lighting whenever possible.
- Adjust system schedules for unoccupancy.



### Power Down

- Unplug all electronic devices. Check with the IT department before unplugging computers and tablet charging carts.
- Keep power-consuming items off when not in use (monitors, projectors, heaters, fans, coffee makers, air purifiers, etc.).
- Limit nonessential electronic devices (coffee makers, mini refrigerators, microwaves, etc.) in classrooms as much as possible and consider implementing an energy conservation policy to enforce.

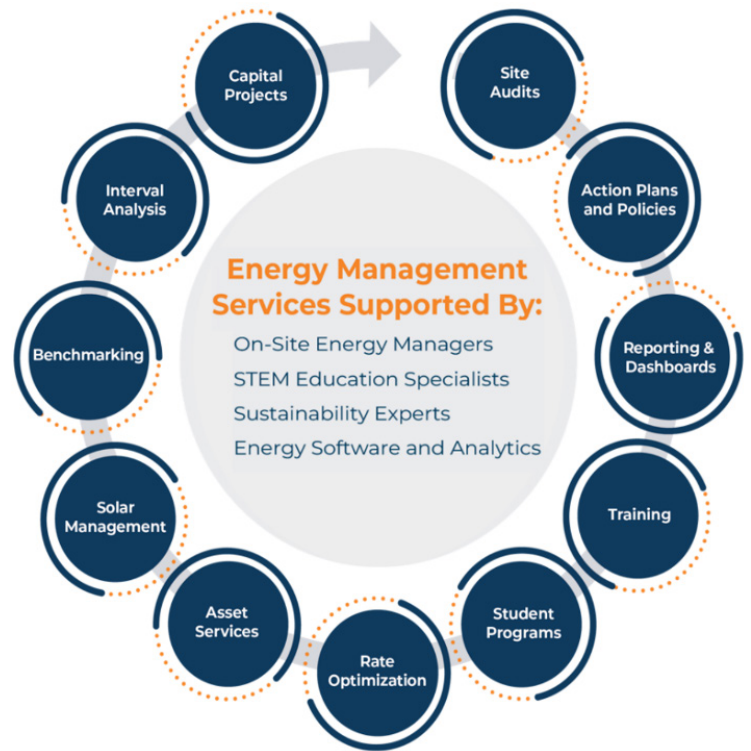


### Engage Your Power Rangers

- Remind teachers and staff of energy conservation tips at least monthly.
- Educate new staff members on your school's best practices to save energy during the school year.

# YOUR ENERGY CONSERVATION PARTNER

SitelogIQ's energy conservation team can help your district implement solutions to reduce your school's energy consumption year-round. With our technology-enabled platform, mySiteIQ, we can develop a personalized and interactive dashboard that helps you understand each facility's utility usage and costs and equipment performance to achieve your sustainability goals and be good stewards of your community's tax dollars.



Our winning combination of visualization technology and energy and operational expertise allows you to **make data-driven decisions** and effectively communicate and report facility needs and performance with your key stakeholders. We can also help to **identify local grants and utility rebates** to fund your sustainability projects, allowing you to **create a safer, healthier, and more energy efficient environment to enhance student performance.**

## About SitelogIQ

At SitelogIQ, we partner with K-12 school districts to enhance the learning environment, bringing comfort, functionality, and efficiency to the classroom through our K-12 school construction and related solutions. Our team of dedicated experts, including retired or previous school administrators and support staff, understand your district and community needs and can help develop a capital plan that fits your educational goals, both now and well into the future.