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Value Added: School Leaders Can Promote Student Energy Literacy

Ann Toler Hilliard

Bowie State University, U.S.A., 5372 Phelps Luck Drive Columbia, Maryland 21045, U.S.A. Telephone: 410 997-3875, E-mail: draph1@juno.com

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ABSTRACT The second highest expense beyond personnel salaries is energy cost to operate schools and other needed facilities. Therefore, there is a growing practice for school leaders to seek ways to decrease energy expenses in their schools through effective management strategies. By gaining more knowledge about energy conservation, school leaders along with teachers can teach students how to critically analyze and decipher real-world information about energy conservation in their own everyday lives. The overall objective of this study is to instill in students the importance of practicing energy conservation at school and at home. The methodology of this initial study uses qualitative interviewing statements collected from school leaders, teachers at the beginning of the year and student leaders at the end of each semester. This research addresses a longitudinal method of study; therefore, the findings will not be finalized at this time. An open-ended and close-ended questionnaire is used to collect data during this semester and the spring semester as enclosed. The focus of this study shows the importance of energy literacy awareness, typical energy costs in schools, common ways to conserve energy, the role of governments, and how to link energy literacy conservation to real-world application.