



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

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### **Nine SMMUSD Schools Win Energy Star Certification From EPA**

Nine schools in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District have been granted Energy Star certification for 2018 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), underlining the district's efforts on energy efficiency and sustainability.



The following schools have been certified: John Adams Middle School, Lincoln Middle School, Franklin Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, McKinley Elementary School, Muir Elementary School, Rogers Learning Community and Roosevelt Elementary School in Santa Monica, and Webster Elementary School in Malibu

"We are proud of the efforts of staff at all of our schools and offices regarding energy reduction and efficiency," Superintendent Dr. Ben Drati said. "We congratulate our nine sites that achieved this important certification. Our school board and site leadership are committed to continuing improvement."

Energy Star-certified buildings are verified to perform in the top 25 percent of buildings nationwide, based on an energy use analysis that takes into account occupancy, hours of operation and other key factors.

The EPA says that on average, Energy Star-certified buildings use 35 percent less energy, produce 35 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions, and are less expensive to operate than similar buildings.

Earlier this year, the Board of Education adopted the [Districtwide Plan for Sustainability](#), which states goals for the next 20 years and charts a path to meet them.

Part of that path includes installing solar panels at school sites to reduce energy use from the public grid. Currently, nine of 16 school sites have at least some solar production. To see solar production and energy use across all district sites, people can check out the district's [energy use dashboard](#), launched in 2018.

For more information, contact Sustainability Coordinator Caroline Coster at [ccoster@smmusd.org](mailto:ccoster@smmusd.org). For more information on the Energy Star program, visit [www.energystar.gov/buildings](http://www.energystar.gov/buildings).

*Written by Chris Clonts, communications specialist.*

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