



Ramona Unified School District

Background

Ramona Unified School District (RUSD) is a rural district located approximately 30 miles northeast of San Diego. The District services more than 5,400 students across its seven elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools and one adult school.

With more than 60% of heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment in poor operating conditions, deteriorating single-pane windows and inefficient fluorescent lights, the District decided it was time to renew its infrastructure. Working collaboratively with Climatec, the District was able to invest in their schools and improve learning environments while reducing maintenance and operation costs and minimizing energy waste.

Project Solution & Results

As part of a comprehensive program, Ramona USD upgraded all lighting systems to LED equipped with occupancy sensors and dimming controls, replaced antiquated heating and cooling equipment with high-efficiency HVAC units, and equipped Ramona Elementary with new dual pane, high performance windows and new asphalt at Ramona HS. In addition the District implemented a district-wide solar energy program by installing solar structures at ten district sites. By combining energy infrastructure improvements with solar, the District will be able to properly size the system, fund much needed facility modernizations, and relieve the general fund from rising utility costs.

This new comfortable environment, brought about from these wide-sweeping infrastructure improvements, encourages and supports student learning and engagement with their teachers and peers.

“We started this program with energy and cost savings at the forefront of our priorities, and we’re still excited about them. However, the value of this program has deepened it means a lot that we can rely on relief for our budget when we need it most. It means much more that we have been able to reopen knowing our schools are safer than they ever have been.”

-Theresa Grace, RUSD Superintendent

INDUSTRY

Education

TOTAL PROGRAM VALUE

\$ 12.4 Million

TOTAL PROGRAM SAVINGS

\$ 34 Million

FUNDING SOURCES

Private Sector Funding & Routine
Restricted Maintenance Account
Contributions

ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

With this program, the environmental savings are equivalent to 3,073,239 kilowatt hours saved, 430 cars off the road, 233,536 gallons of gasoline save, 61,465 trees preserved and 307 Ramona homes powered.