

# STRATEGIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT PLANS



## Department of Energy (DOE) Grant

- The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was awarded a competitive grant in early 2017.
- The grant was to enhance the **SMART Schools program** by providing energy savings technical assistance to schools and help them develop a **Strategic Energy Management (SEM) Plans**.
- DEQ sent out a request for applications to all schools in MT and selected 6 schools to receive \$20,000 towards technical assistance.



## *Schools Selected for SEM projects*



- Livingston
- Anaconda
- Sweet Grass
- Hinsdale
- Gardiner
- Darby



## *Saving Money and Resources Today*

### *What is SMART Schools?*

- *Started by the Governor's office in 2013*
- *Focus is to help schools focus on resource conservation, saving money, and education*
- *Goal to create a network for MT schools*

# Categories for SMART Schools Challenge

- **Energy Challenge-** Save the most energy. (Identify potential equipment upgrades, suggest and implement innovative management strategies, and promote behavior changes with staff and students.)
- **Recycling Challenge-** *Recycle the most waste per student. (Engage and educate students on consumption and waste reduction, mitigate waste from landfills, identify opportunities for improvements)*
- **Green Challenge-** *Implement innovative project. (Promote healthy learning environments for students, create hands on experience (living classrooms), and implement innovative green projects with school wide involvement)*



# What is a Strategic Energy Management Plan?

## Energy Management Planning

- Strategic energy management is a long-term approach to energy efficiency that includes setting goals, tracking progress, and reporting results.
- A successful strategic energy management plan builds long-term relationships with energy users and targets persistent energy savings.
- The benefit of effective planning ensures continuous improvement of energy efficiency and increases the property value of buildings.
- For public buildings, strategic energy management reduces costs across many end uses, and institutionalizes practices to sustain long-term savings



# What is a Strategic Energy Management Plan (...continued)

## Retro-Commissioning

- Retro-commissioning is a systematic process for identifying and improving less than optimal energy performance in an existing buildings equipment and control system.
- This evaluation and fine-tuning process can be implemented as a one time intervention, frequent returning, or ongoing continuous commissioning to ensure the energy savings persist.



## *Possible Funding Opportunity- Energy Performance Contracting*

- What is Energy Performance Contracting?
  - An innovative financing technique that uses cost savings from reduced energy consumption to repay the cost of installing energy conservation measures.
  - Also known as an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) or a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract, it is a valuable tool for achieving infrastructure modernization, budget reduction, resource efficiency, and sustainability goals.





## *Opportunity to Discuss*

- What was the \$20k award used for at your school?
- What are the next steps for you and the school? What is your strategic energy management plan for the next 5 yrs (high level overview)?
- Lessons learned – Please tell us what you learned, what you found most valuable during the SEM process, and what you think we could improve on or what additional education we could provide to you if given this opportunity again.



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# Questions?

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