

# Lighting case study: School districts

## PSE helps schools shine brighter and save more

In a school gymnasium, players and fans alike need to keep their eyes on the ball. But under insufficient lighting, the task is difficult. When Snoqualmie Valley and Oak Harbor school districts decided it was time to fix the problem, they partnered with Puget Sound Energy.

Both school districts hired PSE-approved contractors to install upgraded, energy-efficient lighting in their gymnasiums and throughout their buildings. For both organizations, PSE's Business Lighting incentives and lower energy bills put up big points on the score board. Now everyone has their eye on the ball — greater energy efficiency.



## Snoqualmie Valley School District

“Chief Kanim Middle School’s gym is where staff and students noticed the biggest change,” says Steve Leverett with Modular Electric, which is the contractor the school district hired to upgrade the middle school’s lighting. “I hear all the time what a great improvement it was and how it should have been done long ago.”

Leverett says the process of partnering with PSE to upgrade the school’s lighting was smooth, especially because their electric supplier, Platt Electric Supply, also coordinates with PSE and handled much of the paperwork for the Business Lighting incentives.

“PSE’s Business Lighting program is a big benefit for local businesses,” says Leverett. “I wish more businesses could know about it and understand the value and potential for long-term savings.”

### Project numbers

33,743: annual kWh savings

\$3,364: annual energy savings

26%: percentage of project cost covered by PSE incentive

## Oak Harbor School District

For Oak Harbor High School, the new lights in their gym provided greater efficiency and flexibility. “The number of fixtures is half what it was with the old lights, and each fixture draws half the wattage as before,” says Brian Hunt, facilities director for Oak Harbor School District. “The TLEDs are also 100 percent dimmable, which gives us total flexibility in adjusting fixtures to suit the activity in the gym...from full bright for basketball to partial illumination for presentations.”

The PSE-approved contractor that the school district hired handled the application and paperwork process for the school’s project, which Hunt says progressed in a timely and smooth manner.

### Project numbers

25,904: annual kWh savings

\$2,361: annual energy savings

10%: percentage of project cost covered by PSE incentive