Wayne-Westland Community School District

District Saves Energy and Automates Time Intensive Process with Facility Schedule Automation Tool

Using FSDirect and FSAutomation, Wayne-Westland Community Schools sees significant energy savings and increased productivity

With 23 buildings and community events happening in at least one building every night, it was critical that Wayne-Westland Schools integrated its facility scheduling and building automation system (BAS), which controlled the HVAC system, to save energy costs and employees’ time. Without the integration, this critical data transfer had to be done manually by Nicholas Thornton himself, the district’s Energy Management Supervisor. This daily process was both lengthy and error prone. There were two steps Wayne-Westland Schools needed to take to ensure a smooth integration.

The first step for effective HVAC management was implementing a facility scheduling system that alerted the team to what, when, and where events were taking place. Several years ago, the district implemented SchoolDude’s FSDirect for facility scheduling. Prior to this, buildings had to be heated or cooled until 11pm whether or not events were taking place, wasting energy and money. Now with FSDirect, faculty can submit event requests and Nicholas can deliver HVAC services in a targeted manner. This saved over $200,000 in energy costs annually, extended the life of equipment and ensured customers were satisfied and comfortable; however, it still required manual turn-on and turn-off.

To integrate Wayne-Westland’s BAS and facility scheduling systems, Nicholas looked to SchoolDude for advice because of the district’s relationship with SchoolDude. SchoolDude’s Facility Schedule Automation (FSAutomation) tool, which automatically coordinates facility scheduling and districts’ BAS, was the perfect answer for Nicholas and his district. The integration ensured events scheduled in FSDirect communicated with Johnson Controls, the district’s BAS, to coordinate equipment control and automatically heat and air condition facilities as needed for the time of the event. This automation saved Nicholas 30 minutes per day. “With my time-savings, I can focus on things that will have a lasting impact on the schools and improve energy conservation,” said Nicholas. For example, the district implemented an energy conservation program to supplement SchoolDude. It has seen an 11% reduction in energy use through both a focused program that engages students and faculty and automated, integrated facility scheduling solutions through SchoolDude.

Who they are
CLIENT: Wayne-Westland Community School District
LOCATION: Westland, Michigan
SIZE: 12,000 students, 23 buildings, Recipient of Michigan School Business Officials’ Meridian Award

SchoolDude products used
FSDirect
FSAutomation
MaintenanceDirect
PMDirect
UtilityDirect
MySchoolDude

$200,000 saved per year in energy costs