

# Ameren Missouri BizSavers® Program Energy Savings Case Study

## Lincoln County R-3 School District

Energy costs are some of the top operating expenses for K-12 schools and by improving energy efficiency they could save up to \$2 billion in nationwide annual energy costs. Since 2016, Lincoln County R-3 school district has installed energy-efficient upgrades to ten of their school buildings throughout the district, saving energy and reducing operating costs with the Ameren Missouri BizSavers® Program. Some of the smaller schools in the district, classified under the 2M rate class, were able to take advantage of enhanced incentive rates through the Small Business Direct Install (SBDI) Incentive Program. By participating, the smaller schools in the district were able to significantly reduce the cost to upgrade with the expertise of our registered SBDI service providers. Combining all of the energy efficiency upgrades Lincoln County R-3 installed in their school buildings, they were able to earn **more than \$350,000** in incentives and reduced their annual energy costs by **more than \$290,000!**

### Project Summary

Over four years, the district has updated thousands of fluorescent tubes and fixtures to LEDs. Along with upgrading to a more efficient Packaged DX HVAC, the district installed advanced rooftop unit controls as well as new water loop heat pumps, water heaters and HVAC controls/energy management systems in several district buildings. Overall, these upgrades have reduced Lincoln County R-3's energy use by **more than 3,700,000 kWh** every year.

### Incentive

The district has earned **over \$350,000 in incentives** for energy-saving upgrades from the BizSavers Program. With a median payback period of just over 4 years, the decision to make high-quality improvements and long-lasting energy efficiency upgrades to several buildings in the district was easy.

### Technology

Known for their low energy consumption and long life, LED lamps can **save up to 50% in energy costs** as compared to fluorescent lamps and provide students with a better and brighter learning environment. They also generate less heat, reducing the impact on the HVAC load. New, efficient HVAC systems use about **30-50% less energy** than older, inefficient units. Schools can take their savings further by adding advanced controls or energy management systems that reduce waste and optimize HVAC energy use.

Water loop heat pumps recycle heat, more effectively regulating building temperature and providing improved comfort in classrooms and offices. Energy-efficient commercial electric water heaters use **15% less energy** than conventional units; by making the switch to more efficient equipment can save school districts thousands of dollars over the long term.

## Facility Information

**Facility type:**

**K-12 School District**

**Measures:**

**Lighting, Cooling,  
Water Heating  
and HVAC**

**Annual energy cost savings:**

**\$294,732**

**Annual kWh savings:**

**3,754,677**

**Total project costs:**

**\$2,876,423**

**Total incentives:**

**\$352,448**

**Total projects:**

**51**

**Payback:**

**4.06 years**

## Get Started Saving!

Find out how you can save at [AmerenMissouri.com/BizSavers](http://AmerenMissouri.com/BizSavers) or by contacting a Business Development Representative at [BizSavers@Ameren.com](mailto:BizSavers@Ameren.com) or **1.866.941.7299**. Ready to start saving now? Find an approved contractor at [TradeAllyNetwork.com](http://TradeAllyNetwork.com).