

“The NSTAR incentives definitely help because school department and town budgets are always tight. **If there is an incentive, there’s an extra push to complete an energy efficiency project.”**

— Barbara Bartlett, Energy Manager for Duxbury Public Schools



NSTAR offers practical solutions to help lower electric use for both residential and business customers. Here’s an example of how NSTAR’s Business Solutions Program helped one of our customers. To find out how we can help your business, contact NSTAR at 781-441-8592.

The Background

There are four schools in the Duxbury public school system: Chandler Elementary (preschool through 2nd grade), Alden Elementary (3rd through 5th grades), Duxbury Middle (6th through 8th grades) and Duxbury High School (9th through 12th grades).

The Challenge

Barbara Bartlett, Energy Manager for Duxbury Public Schools, has seen the difference that energy efficiency programs can make. First working with NSTAR while she was the Energy Manager for Boston Public Schools, Barbara now brings that expertise to bear for Duxbury. NSTAR's incentive programs complement the other efforts implemented by Duxbury Public Schools such as using performance contracting and fully utilizing an energy management system. One of the first challenges Barbara identified was to look at ways to improve lighting efficiency in three of the Duxbury school gyms.

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The NSTAR Solution

With NSTAR's help, Barbara changed the fixtures and installed lighting controls in three of the gyms. The lighting project has already positively impacted Duxbury's utility expenditures. “The business manager has seen a difference. Instead of coming in over budget, which he had predicted, the utilities were under budget this past year. Part is due to the incentives we received from NSTAR for the lighting projects and part is the work I've done with the energy management system.”

When looking at potential projects, Barbara considers the potential cost savings and possible incentive programs. “If the project qualifies for an incentive, then we'll make sure it is higher on our project list and get the application in the pipeline so we don't lose the opportunity.”

The Benefits

For Barbara and Duxbury Public Schools, the benefits are clear. Barbara would recommend NSTAR programs to other schools. “I'd tell them that you're going to shorten your payback time on whatever you invest in and that translates into cost avoidance. Two, the application process was simple. If I needed a new form, I downloaded it, so the process was easy.”

Working with her NSTAR Account Executive, Vicki Marchant, also made the process run smoothly. “I always had a contact so if I had a question on something, I could get the help I needed.”

There are more projects Barbara is looking to for the future. Other projects will involve upgrading classroom lighting, adding lighting controls, variable speed drives and renewable technologies. Duxbury is also participating in the NSTAR ENERGY STAR® Benchmarking program.



The NSTAR Mission

We're committed to delivering great service.

Energy Efficiency: It's simply good business.

NSTAR has offered expertise in the energy business spanning 100 years. Our Energy Efficiency Programs have helped hundreds of our business customers save nearly one billion kWh since 1998 alone. That is the equivalent of enough energy to power over 150,000 homes for one year. Those savings helped grow and strengthen Massachusetts' business and contributed to a strong Massachusetts economy, increased local property values with wise facility investments, and helped create a healthier environment for all Massachusetts businesses and residents by reducing emissions.

To learn how NSTAR can make your business more competitive through energy efficiency, contact us today.

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