



## EMBARGO UNTIL APRIL 17, 2017

Monday, April 17, 2017

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### **District Saves Over One Million Dollars Through Energy Conservation**

**JUNCTION CITY, KAN.** – Faculty and staff at Geary County Schools USD 475 have chalked up a million dollars worth of good behavior. Their energy-efficient practices have earned big savings — and now those good habits are earning the organization national recognition.

Geary County Schools USD 475 has achieved \$1,070,078 in cost savings in 24 months since forming a strategic alliance with Cenergistic, a national energy conservation company, which will present its Energy Excellence Award during the Board of Education Celebrations meeting on April 17, 2017, at 5:00 PM. This meeting will be held at the Junction City Middle School auditorium.

“Reaching this savings mark is a significant milestone. Geary County Schools USD 475 has achieved success by consistently implementing the organizational behavior-based approach to energy conservation and maintaining productive efforts at all levels of the organization. The Superintendent and board, along with other administration, faculty and staff members are to be commended for clearly fulfilling their commitment to being good stewards of the taxpayers’ money and the environment,” said Dr. William S. Spears, Chairman, and Founder of Cenergistic. “I am extremely pleased to present Geary County Schools USD 475 with our Energy Excellence Award. The district joins a very committed group of organizations across the country working hard to achieve energy savings so the dollars saved can be redirected to educational needs,” said Dr. Spears.

A key benefit of the Cenergistic program is that all costs come out of the existing utility budget, with savings projected to more than pay for the program, as they have done for Geary County Schools USD 475. Additional savings can be redirected to other parts of the budget. Many organizations credit the program with helping keep personnel and programs that would otherwise have fallen victim to budget cuts — a very real concern with today’s school funding woes.

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As part of the program, Energy Specialist Mr. William Cooley tracks energy consumption — including electricity, water, sewer, natural gas and fuel oil — using energy-accounting software. He compares current energy use to a baseline period and calculates the amount of energy that would have been used had conservation and management practices not been implemented. By tracking consumption and analyzing energy use, he can quickly identify and correct areas that need immediate attention.

*For inquiries please contact Matthew Droge, Executive Director of Communications for USD 475 Geary County Schools.*

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