Rhode Island is Turning Green... One School at a Time

Ocean State Emerges as a National Leader on Climate-Friendly Education

Schools that are energy-efficient and integrate climate impacts into the classroom setting improve learning, boost student health and save taxpayer money.

Since 2007, Rhode Island has taken a two-fold approach to ensure our PreK-12 students learn in schools that are safe, clean and (increasingly) environment-friendly: regulations that ensure uniformity and equity in school construction and compliance with Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools Protocol (NECHPS) requirements to ensure projects are built green.

As a result, Rhode Island public schools built or renovated over the last 15 years use at least 30% less energy and 20% less water than buildings designed to code and have diverted at least 50% of construction waste from landfills.

Each year, more Rhode Island schools earn the Green Ribbon School award from the U.S. Department of Education. The competitive program honors schools, districts and postsecondary institutions that stand out in their efforts to reduce environmental impact and costs; improve the health and wellness of students and staff; and provide effective sustainability education.

WE’RE NUMBER ONE!

R.I. is in the top spot for Green Ribbon schools in the Northeast (and we hold the second spot nationwide).

PUT YOUR SCHOOL ON THE MAP!

Contact RIDE at Mario.Carreno@ride.ri.gov to apply for your Green Ribbon in 2023.