Benefits of Solar and Sustainable Features for Education

Conservation and sustainability are a central focus of the school. The facility is equipped with several sustainable education tools: digital interactive informational displays of the building’s energy use and renewable energy generation; an outdoor lab; a wind and solar panel learning station; rainwater harvesting and native gardening; and a campus wide recycling program. The solar arrays can be monitored by interactive dashboards that are available to the students. This allows the students immediately know...
Benefits of Solar and Sustainable Features Continued
the impact they’ve had on the environment with their school. Students are engaged utilizing the facility’s sustainable features as a teaching tool. It creates ownership and encourages a deeper understanding of their contribution and impact on the world. Additionally, the onsite energy generation is helping to minimize building maintenance and operations costs by harvesting on site energy which lowers utility costs.

Funding
Coppell ISD received $21 million from a $79.5 million district bond to construct the net-zero elementary school and an additional grant from Oncor Electric for the installation of the solar array. Adding the solar technology is what made Richard J. Lee Elementary school eligible for net-zero status.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments recommends to have an energy audit done by the State Energy Conservation Office to establish where solar might fit into overall energy efficiency improvements and energy saving potential. For more information on the SECO Technical Assistance Program, please visit: http://seco.cpa.state.tx.us/energy-reporting/gov-assist.php/

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is working under contract with the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) to expand best management practices for solar photovoltaic systems throughout the State of Texas. For more information about solar in Texas, please visit: www.GoSolarTexas.org.