



## Fall 2009 Newsletter

**ENERGY STAR** - CASDEM formally joined ENERGY STAR® as a Partner this September. This partnership is a commitment that many of our member school districts have already made individually. CASDEM's mission dovetails well with ENERGY STAR's charge to protect the environment through the continuous improvement of



*CASDEM's mission is to promote energy management in Colorado schools, to provide a means of sharing information on energy management issues related to schools, and to provide opportunities for cooperative efforts related to energy management among Colorado's school districts.*

energy performance. CASDEM member school districts are committed to measuring, tracking, and improving the energy performance of their organizations. ENERGY STAR provides CASDEM members with valuable support, resources and tools. CASDEM accepts the ENERGY STAR challenge!

**Web Page Updates** – Be sure to stop by the CASDEM webpage for news updates, local events, new tools and resources. While there, the Members page now includes member's contact information, district logo and a link to their respective energy management or sustainability website. This tool provides a means to share information on each school district's efforts toward energy management. Please consider including a logo and web page address for your school district. If your school District doesn't currently have an energy management or sustainability website, please consider developing one. Everyone would benefit from your ideas and approach to energy management and sustainability! [www.casdem.org](http://www.casdem.org)



### **Collaborative for High Performance Schools –**

**Colorado** – Several members of CASDEM collaborated in the development of Colorado's version of the CHPS Criteria assessment tool for green schools. The emphasis of this benchmarking system is “design and construction of high performance school buildings for Colorado that are energy efficient, comfortable, environmentally responsible and healthy spaces for learning.” Thanks to Bill Franzen and Stu Reeve from Poudre Valley Schools, Thomas Fernandez from Colorado Springs School District #11, Mark Payler from Weld County School District RE-8, Jeff Arnold from CSPMA, and all others for making this assessment tool a reality. The CO-CHPS criteria can be found at the following link: <http://www.chps.net/dev/Drupal/node/37>

**ENERGY STAR Webinars** – At the September CASDEM meeting, Region VIII, Energy Star Program Officer, Patty Crow announced that funding was available to Region VIII to host several webinars specifically for Colorado. Patty is asking CASDEM for ideas on possible webinar subjects. These webinars will bring in expert speakers to present for 90 minutes with time at the end for questions and answers. *If you have ideas please contact Patty Crow at [crow.patty@epa.gov](mailto:crow.patty@epa.gov) or Eric Anderson at [eanderson@mesa.k12.co.us](mailto:eanderson@mesa.k12.co.us), some possible subjects are energy performance contracting, measurement and verification and ENERGY STAR financial tools.*

**Upcoming CASDEM Meeting** – Mark your calendars! The next CASDEM meeting is being planned for Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be hosted by past CASDEM Chairman Sam Crispin at the Colorado School of Mines. Arrangements are being worked out with the Colorado Renewable Energy Laboratory for a tour of their wood fired campus heating plant, and their LEED Platinum Photovoltaic Research Building. Guest presenters will include Phil & Diana Kastelic of *Colorado Forest and Energy*, Brain Stone of *School Dude* and Patty Crow from *Energy Star*. If you have an idea for one of our upcoming meetings please contact Eric Anderson at [eanderso@mesa.k12.co.us](mailto:eanderso@mesa.k12.co.us).

Future meeting dates are January 7<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, and May 6<sup>th</sup>. Locations are to be determined.

**Member's Travels** – While traveling by leisure or business, CASDEM members who have experiences worth sharing with the greater association should consider submitting their story and some photographs for the next newsletter. Eric Anderson from Mesa County School District 51 recently travelled to the San Luis Valley with his family. Enjoy photos of the amazing Great Sand Dunes and the Sun Edison (Xcel Energy) solar farm just outside of Hooper, Colorado.



**Sun Edison Solar Farm** – according to Sun Edison’s website this solar system is the largest U.S. Photovoltaic power plant. The plant consists of 72 SOLON-Mover Dual axis tracking arrays with concentrating solar panels, 24,384 polycrystalline panels mounted on single axis tracking arrays, and 2,224 polycrystalline panels mounted on seasonal adjustable racks. The entire plant produces 8.22 megawatts of clean electrical power and annually produces 17,000 megawatt-hours. This facility generates enough energy to power 1,500 homes. Carbon offset is equivalent to emissions produced by 2,840 cars annually. Xcel Energy purchased the 82 acres of land that Sun Edison built this facility upon. Sun Edison owns, operates, monitors and maintains the plant for Xcel Energy under a 20 year power purchase contract.