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The Allen-Stevenson School Is The First Elementary School In The U.S. To Receive LEED Gold Award For Existing Buildings

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The Allen-Stevenson School was assisted by EME Group in attaining the LEED for Existing Buildings and Energy Star Label for Buildings certifications.

THE ALLEN-STEVENSON SCHOOL IS THE FIRST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE U.S. TO RECEIVE LEED GOLD AWARD FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS

New York, NY -January xx, 2010

On July 1st 2009, The Allen-Stevenson School was awarded LEED Gold for Existing Buildings (EB) by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). This makes Allen-Stevenson the first elementary school in the United States to achieve LEED-EB Gold status.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is USGBC's leading rating system for designing and constructing the world's greenest, most energy efficient, and high performing buildings. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

"Greening our existing buildings is the most important challenge we face in tackling energy independence, air pollution, and global climate change," said Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. "Smart building owners know it saves money, too. This recognition shows that audits and retrofits can green buildings and that New Yorkers will continue to lead the nation toward a green future. Congratulations to the Allen-Stevenson School on this achievement, which directly supports our PlaNYC goal of making a greener, greater New York."

Allen-Stevenson used its most recent renovation as an opportunity to achieve LEED Gold Status and to reduce its carbon footprint. This renovation, which was completed in 2006, combined five existing buildings into a new structure, for a total of 72,000 square feet, and incorporated a number of green features which included: the fitting of environmentally preferable carpet tiles and linoleum flooring; the installation of high performance compact florescent and low mercury content fixtures, lighting controls that include occupancy and day lighting sensors, LED exit signs, low flow lavatory fixtures and metered faucets; and the installation of high performance glazing and shades on windows, just to name a few.

In partnership with New York State Energy and Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and with assistance from EME Group, Allen-Stevenson took on the Authority's recommendations by installing new energy efficient motors, Variable Frequency Drives, energy efficient boilers and chillers, and an indoor air quality program controlled by a state of the art computer-driven building management system. Upon completion, the systems underwent a full commissioning.

Prior to receiving LEED Gold certification, Allen-Stevenson reduced its energy consumption by 18 percent. Because of this effort, the school, with assistance from EME Group, was awarded EPA's ENERGY STAR GREEN LABEL FOR BUILDINGS* designation. This means that Allen-Stevenson is among the top 25 percent of energy efficient buildings in the country.

Allen-Stevenson has also implemented many Green Policies such as the incorporation of an extensive recycling program, the use of green certified cleaning products, and the purchasing of only energy efficient Energy Star* appliances and technologies. The purchasing of 100% green energy is yet another step in the "Greening of Allen-Stevenson".

"Buildings are a prime example of how human systems integrate with natural systems," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "The Allen-Stevenson School project efficiently uses our natural resources and makes an immediate, positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit future generations to come."

Educating the students to become more environmentally conscious has also been a big part of the School's greening efforts. Launched in April 2007, The Carbon Challenge is a hands-on learning opportunity for students to become aware of how to reduce energy consumption. For one week, the boys are challenged to reduce the school's energy consumption. This helps the students become aware of how by making small changes, such as unplugging chargers and appliances, setting computers to sleep and disabling screen savers, taking control of temperature and using appliances efficiently as well as simply turning out unnecessary lighting, they can make a big difference in the energy usage of the School.

Allen-Stevenson's student greening efforts also include having some classrooms plant herbs, which are then given to the School's kitchen. Other groups plant seeds on Arbor Day for tree adoption later in the year. In the spring, the Fifth Grade is invited to Waldingfield Farm, an organic vegetable farm in Washington, Connecticut, to help plant vegetables. Every fall the Sixth Grade returns to harvest the vegetables they planted months before.

David R. Trower, Headmaster of Allen-Stevenson said, "I would like to thank the Board of Trustees, staff, students, parents, and community of The Allen-Stevenson School for their sincere and effective efforts in making our school an ENERGY STAR and LEED qualified building. During this time of scarce resources and high prices, our efforts create an impact locally, nationally, and globally."

For additional information, please contact:

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The Allen-Stevenson School

The Allen-Stevenson School is an independent school for boys from Kindergarten through Ninth Grade. Since the School's founding in 1883, Allen-Stevenson has been dedicated to providing the very best elementary education for boys growing up in New York City. Its distinctive "enlightened traditional" approach educates boys to become scholars and gentlemen. In addition to providing a vigorous educational program of reading, mathematics, science, and other academic subjects, Allen-Stevenson offers its boys a well-rounded curriculum involving music, drama, art and athletics.

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