

CASE STUDY

Empowered energy empowering education

Crescent City Schools' Harriet Tubman Charter serves New Orleans students while working to make every dollar go further for instruction, enrichment and student experiences. Through Entergy New Orleans' Energy Smart Large Commercial Automated Demand Response Program, the two campuses, Blue Campus and Park Campus, used everyday building operations to support grid reliability, advance sustainability and earn incentives that could be redirected back into classrooms and learning.

The Energy Smart Large Commercial Automated Demand Response (ADR) Program

In 2022, Harriet Tubman Charter partnered with Entergy New Orleans' ADR Program to better manage energy use and reduce operating costs. The administrators sought a program that would support sustainability without disrupting student experiences or essential operations beyond 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The campuses host before- and after-school programs, dances, sporting events, teacher functions and other activities. Because school schedules extend beyond traditional classroom hours, energy planning needs to be flexible and predictable.

Preserving architectural integrity and energy

Both campuses needed to improve energy performance within buildings with unique structural and operational realities: the Blue Campus houses a historic, 110-year-old building where renovations had to preserve original features not designed for modern efficiency, while the Park Campus, formerly an old church, required updates to support pre-K through second-grade learning environments. Although the schools had already made improvements such as LED lighting, they wanted additional ways to save energy and support sustainability without disrupting student experiences, comfort, safety or essential campus activities.



TOTAL INCENTIVES EARNED

\$67,701.05

ACROSS BOTH CAMPUSES

—

PARTICIPATING SINCE DECEMBER 2022

ADR Program highlights

- Total ADR Program incentives across both campuses: \$67,701.05
- Continuing participation since December 2022
- Automatic reduction of electricity use during demand response events
- Support for grid reliability in New Orleans
- Early event notifications for operational planning
- Flexibility with the ability to opt out when needed
- Incentives that can support mission-driven priorities

Energy Smart energy efficiency program

In addition to participating in the Energy Smart ADR Program, Crescent City Schools also has received \$51,730.98 in incentives through the energy efficiency program. Improvements across the two properties helped reduce energy waste and boost building performance. Harriet Tubman Charter also distributed 216 energy-savings kits to 5th- and 8th-grade students, helping build awareness of energy use across 216 households.



Operational, community and industry benefits

Through the ADR Program, Harriet Tubman Charter was able to put incentive dollars back into the classroom and critical power back into the electric grid.

These financial incentives were used to support a range of student-centered experiences, including:

- Classroom instruction
- Extracurricular activities
- Field trips
- Student enrichment
- School community programming

By participating in both ADR and energy efficiency programs, Harriet Tubman Charter reinforced its commitment to education, community and the environment. The result is a practical example of how schools and community-serving organizations can use energy management to support sustainability while investing in the people they serve.

Harriet Tubman Charter School. Values in action.

Harriet Tubman Charter places a great deal of importance on their core values of unity, responsibility and excellence. They see joining this program as a way to live out their guiding principles. By helping improve the efficiency of the electrical grid and promoting sustainability, they can put their values into action, showing strong support for their community, the wider school system and the city of New Orleans. They hope their involvement will inspire other schools and local businesses to look for creative programs like this one to make a positive difference in the communities they serve.

 EnergySmartADR.com

 504-784-0640

 adr@energysmartnola.com

“Every resource we save, system we strengthen and decision we make should create greater opportunities for our students and allow us to invest more deeply in the people and classrooms that serve them. ADR savings have allowed us to pour money back into our students.”



— MARIYAM SALLEY
Principal, Harriet Tubman Charter