

CASE STUDY

A teaching moment for environmental stewardship

Mount Carmel Academy recognized an opportunity to help the environment while conserving energy usage by enrolling in the Large Commercial Automated Demand Response Program. The school is now reinvesting in its campus and education initiatives by helping the New Orleans power grid during peak demand periods.

Environmental responsibility at school

Mount Carmel Academy is an all-girls private Catholic high school in New Orleans. Incorporated in the state of Louisiana in 1896, the school is located along Allen Toussaint Boulevard in the residential neighborhood of Lakeview near Lake Pontchartrain. The academy serves 1,200 students across a 9-acre campus, which includes three gymnasiums, a performing arts center, a fine arts building, a fitness area, a dining hall and a café. The Cubs, Mount Carmel Academy's mascot and a moniker for its students, pride themselves on being mindful of their school's impact on the environment.

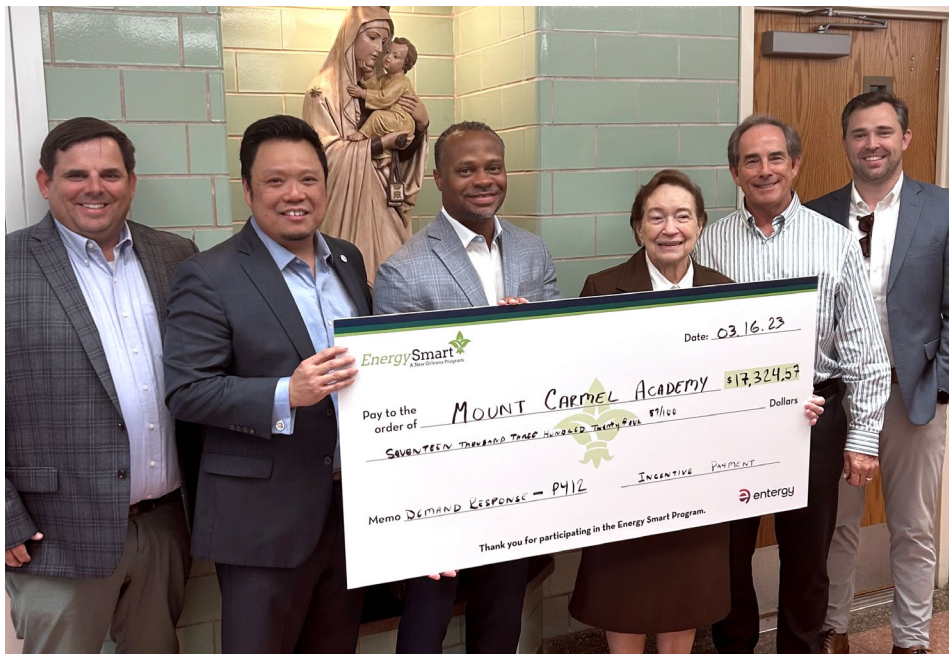
"As committed environmental stewards, we recognize the importance of conserving our planet's finite resources," Sister Camille Anne Campbell, Mount Carmel Academy's president, said.

Doing their part

Mount Carmel Academy did not face specific challenges around energy costs but recognized the opportunity to curb electricity usage. The school's older buildings consumed a significant amount of energy, and the Cubs wanted to do their part to ease the strain on the New Orleans electric grid and help curb environmental pollution, especially during peak demand periods.



**TOTAL INCENTIVES
EARNED
\$51,237**



‘A clear choice’

During the 2021-2022 non-summer season, Mount Carmel Academy applied, qualified and enrolled in the Large Commercial Automated Demand Response Program, an Entergy New Orleans and Energy Smart initiative. The program offers incentives for businesses and large organizations to opt in to automated energy reductions during peak demand periods. For Mount Carmel Academy, it was a “clear choice” to enroll in the demand response program, according to Sister Campbell.

Reinvested savings

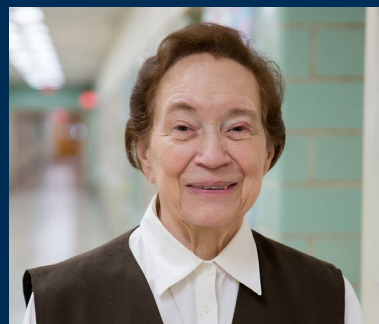
The results have been effective for Mount Carmel Academy in the four years since the school enrolled in the demand response program. So far, the school has earned \$51,237 in incentives for helping improve the New Orleans electric grid. More important, according to Sister Campbell, is the positive impact the school is having on the environment by participating in the program.

“From the very beginning, our motivation has been simple: If we care about the world and all its inhabitants, supporting a program with no negative impacts on our school was an easy decision,” Sister Campbell said. “While the incentive checks are a nice bonus, our primary focus is on leading our community toward a more sustainable future.”

An all-around win

Mount Carmel Academy has set a great example for other businesses and organizations throughout New Orleans by participating in the Large Commercial Automated Demand Response Program. The school has saved money, reduced energy consumption and used its position as an educational institution to teach students about the importance of sustainability. It’s an all-around win for the school, its students and the environment.

“This program not only aligns with our values but also presents a great opportunity to teach our students about sustainability and resource conservation.”



– SISTER CAMILLE ANNE CAMPBELL
President,
Mount Carmel Academy

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