

St. Andrew's Awarded Grant from Delaware's Energy Efficiency Investment Fund

Will Robinson, Mar 18 2014

The School's sustainability efforts continue to pay dividends for the environment and the bottom line. Delaware's Energy Efficiency Investment Fund awarded St. Andrew's with a \$6,000 grant to help with approximately \$20,000 worth of energy efficiency work recommended in the School's recent energy audit.

Director of Sustainability Diana Burk applied for the grant to help with the costs of a new high efficiency water heater in Moss and Pell dorms and new LED lighting retrofits for outdoor lighting around campus and in Forbes Theater.

The grant will reduce the cost of the upgrades to \$14,000, but will save the School \$9,000 per year in energy costs, while also further reducing the School's carbon footprint. It was welcome news to Burk who has been instrumental in leading the School's efforts with strong support from the student body.

"The students continue to be a driving force behind all of our sustainability initiatives," said Burk. "Our hope is that this grant will further galvanize them around both the economics of our sustainability efforts and the importance of continuing to push forward for the health of our community and the world at large."

The grant is the latest good news for the School's sustainability initiatives over the last several years. The U.S. Department of Education named St. Andrew's a Green Ribbon School in 2013, one of only three boarding schools in the country to receive the recognition. Among many of the ongoing smaller improvements around campus, St. Andrew's is also home to the state-of-the-art Sippelle Field House, the first LEED Gold certified school building in Delaware.