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For Immediate Release

Hershey Public School Celebrates Energy Upgrades

HERSHEY, NEBRASKA -- Behlen Mfg. Co. took part in a public celebration of the Hershey Public School District's significant investment in green energy on Tuesday, December 15th. The Hershey Public School System (K-12) recently completed a total energy systems upgrade for the entire facility which utilized a new, patented geothermal energy transfer system supplied by Behlen known as AQUI-FLO™. Hershey school was presented with an energy innovation award for being the first school to install the patented heat pump system to heat and cool the school.

During the celebration, Richard Baier, Director NE Dept., Economic Development, stated, "This represents new technology that comes from us globally. It's Chinese technology that's being patented and produced by a Nebraska company and piloted here in Hershey and we are excited to see it here to create new jobs in the state while leading to energy efficiency and cost savings."

The state-of-the-art AQUI-FLO™ system operates on an "open loop" principle and utilizes ground water for the energy source. The Behlen geothermal system works with the heat pump heating and cooling system supplied by Trane of Omaha. Using a single well to extract the water is what makes it unique. After the ground water heats and cools the school it is returned back into the aquifer. Both the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy have endorsed geothermal energy transfer technology.

The AQUI-FLO™ system is expected to provide the school with an annual expected savings of \$30,000 to \$50,000 and improve the students' learning environment by improving air quality. According to Dr. Michael Cunning, Superintendent Hershey Public School, "Each unit has a sensor to detect air quality and if it needs to bring fresh air in from outside it will do that."

Steve Koch, Hershey School Board President, said, "We took a little risk but it's awesome and it's worked well."

Behlen Mfg. Co. is licensed to offer and develop this technology and represents another positive step in the history and diverse growth of Behlen.



Dr. Michael Cunning - Superintendent of Hershey Public School accepts an energy innovation award. From left: Neil Moseman - NE Dept. of Energy, Steve Koch - Hershey School Board President, Dr. Michael Cunning - Hershey Public School Superintendent, Richard Baier - NE Dept. of Economic Development, Tony Raimondo (TR) - Behlen Mfg. Co. Chairman & Coach, and Karl Schaphorst - Trane of Omaha.



Hershey grades 7-12 Student Body