

Natick Public Schools (Natick, MA)

Natick Public Schools plans to improve energy-efficiency, health, education, equity, and environmental outcomes at Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School. Staff and students have suffered heat stroke and other heat-related illness due to the lack of centralized air-conditioning during high degree days. As part of the Renew America's Schools program, Natick will fully electrify the elementary school. They are pairing deferred maintenance repairs and upgrades with forward-thinking investments in building infrastructure, specifically, the addition of an air-to-water heat pump system, heat exchanger, and the replacement of aging rooftop units, air handling units and a building automation system (BAS) with state-of-the-art equipment. Community partners will join Natick and DOE in accomplishing the project's goals and supporting job training and building decarbonization planning among disadvantaged communities.

Community Benefits

Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School (Ben-Hem), the location of the Natick Public Schools' project, serves a designated Energy Justice population and has a high density of active-duty veteran families. Natick is committed to investing in workforce education and the training of new and incumbent workers, and to creating high quality jobs that attract and retain skilled workers in the industry. Through this DOE project, Natick commits to providing project-based training on building electrification to 20 disadvantaged students – in partnership with the Keefe Tech Regional Vocational School's HVAC-R program. It will additionally collaborate with UMass and UndauntedK12. Natick has collective bargaining agreements with 10 local unions for operations and management.

Team Members	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BLW Engineers, Inc.• Keefe Regional Technical School• University of Massachusetts Amherst• UndauntedK12	
Total Funds Requested	\$ 2,037,131
Proposed Cost Share (%)	\$ 626,795 (24%)
Number of Buildings	1

