News Release

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**ASD-W schools first in Atlantic Canada to earn energy star certification**

FREDERICTON – Two schools in Anglophone West School District have earned Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) ENERGY STAR certification for 2019 for superior energy performance.

This is the second year NRCan has officially certified buildings in Canada, and Bliss Carman Middle School and Royal Road Elementary School are the first schools in Atlantic Canada to receive ENERGY STAR certification.

“It is great to be recognized by this organization for accomplishments that often fly under the radar,” said Superintendent David McTimoney. “While safety and creating a positive, comfortable learning and work environment are most important in terms of our buildings, finding energy efficiencies is also a responsibility that we take seriously.”

ENERGY STAR certified buildings are verified to perform in the top 25 per cent of buildings nationwide, based on weather-normalized source energy use that takes into account occupancy, hours of operation and other key metrics.

To qualify, only buildings that earn a score of 75 or higher on NRCan’s 1 to 100 energy performance scale are verified by a licensed professional engineer or registered architect in order to receive the certification mark.

Bliss Carman Middle School and Royal Road Elementary School earned scores of 93 and 86 respectively by embracing energy efficiency in the following ways:

1. Optimizing operations and energy efficient technology in the school buildings;
2. Energy conservation during off school hours using electrical and mechanical systems;
3. Analyzing data and benchmarking energy consumption in the schools;
4. Reducing energy costs by industry best practices and by monthly monitoring of energy performance.

McTimoney said credit for the certification goes to the facilities, maintenance operations and maintenance staff with the district for their work in operating, scheduling and maintaining schools. Improving energy performance will also be a priority for other schools as the effort in energy efficiency continues in the district.

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