

Burke County Public Schools: Empowering Education Through Energy Efficiency

"Cenergistic's program is driving long-term value for the district."

CHALLENGE



Like many school districts across the country, Burke County Public Schools (BCPS) in North Carolina faced a growing challenge: rising energy costs that threatened essential educational programs. With over **2.5 million sq. feet across 26 schools and nearly 13,000 enrolled students**, the district needed a solution to optimize energy use and free up valuable resources for student success.



*Trusted Strategic
Partners*



*More Than
Just Savings*



*Data-Driven
Decision Making*

"Our collaboration with Cenergistic exemplifies the potential of a value-based energy management approach. *The \$30 million saved through our energy efficiency program have been reinvested into student programs, teacher retention and improved learning environments, driving long term value for the district, and ensuring that our schools continue to grow and thrive without compromising educational outcomes.*"
– *Dr. Mike Swan, Superintendent of Burke County Public Schools*

SOLUTION



BCPS partnered with Cenergistic to address its escalating energy costs. **Taking a holistic approach, Cenergistic went beyond basic measures and analyzed factors like building operations, equipment efficiency, and utility rate structures.** This comprehensive approach ensured a wider range of energy-saving opportunities were identified. Based on the audit findings, Cenergistic developed a tailored energy management plan that focused on three key areas:

- **Data-Driven Optimization:** Utilizing advanced analytics to track and optimize energy consumption.
- **Behavior Modification:** Engaging staff and students with energy-saving practices through educational campaigns.
- **Infrastructure Upgrades:** Upgraded lighting systems, HVAC equipment, and building controls.

VALUE DELIVERED



1

Funding Educational Resources

The savings have freed up resources for critical educational programs and initiatives, such as investments in classroom technology and curriculum development.

2

Reduced Operating Costs

*These savings have significantly reduced BCPS's overall utility costs per square foot; the current cost sits at an impressive **\$0.96 per square foot.***

3

Retaining Top Talent

The energy savings realized have helped ensure competitive teacher salaries, a key factor in BCPS's ability to attract and retain top talent.