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NEWS RELEASE
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State Awards K-6 Space and Energy Implementation Grants

(PHOENIX, AZ – May 7, 2008) The Arizona School Facilities Board (SFB) approved additional K-6 space for the Thatcher Unified District and awarded \$2,000,000 in Energy Implementation Grants at the monthly board meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2008.

The additional K-6 space was awarded as part of the FY08 Capital Plan Cycle, which is nearing an end. The cycle begins in early September when districts submit their requests for new construction. From that time, SFB staff analyzes the requests taking into account factors such as current district capacity and projected growth.

The Thatcher Unified District received additional K-6 space for 116 students, which is expected to open in Fall 2010. This award totals \$1,304,382. A list of projects approved in this cycle is attached.

Approvals such as this allow districts to design their schools within the allocated budgets. Upon completion of design, the projects will go before the Board again for approval to begin actual construction. More awards may be made at the next board meeting to be held in the Casa Grande Elementary District on June 5, 2008.

The Arizona Energy and Water Savings Grant Program was created by Laws 2007, Chapter 266 (HB 2792) and appropriates \$2,200,000 for school districts to perform energy and water savings audits to identify potential energy or water savings measures, and estimate projected savings, benefits and costs associated with the implementation of energy and water conservation projects.

The grant funding was divided into two types of projects: development grants and implementation grants. The establishing statute defines implementation grants as “a project that saves electricity, natural gas, other energy fuels or water, in a school facility built and occupied before July 1, 1999, through any of the following: (a) Improvements in the efficiency of energy or water use, (b) On-site production and use of electricity and useful thermal energy, or (c)

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Improvements in the operation of buildings and energy-consuming or water-using equipment in buildings.” The SFB may award up to \$2,000,000 for implementation grants, with the balance of grant funding designated for development grants. The development grant awards were approved by the Board on April 3, 2008.

Of the 164 implementation grant applications received, the following districts have been awarded funding:

District	Project	Score	Award
Payson Unified	Payson High School	77	\$100,000
Flowing Wells Unified	Flowing Wells High School	65	\$5,434
Eloy Elementary	Eloy Intermediate School	61	\$98,361
Altar Valley Unified	Mary E. Dill Elementary School	58	\$84,773
Altar Valley Unified	Administration/Transportation	56	\$12,890
Parker Unified	Parker High School	54	\$100,000
Payson Unified	Payson Elementary School	53	\$100,000
Colorado River Union	River Valley High School	52	\$100,000
Colorado River Union	Mohave High School	52	\$100,000
Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary	Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary School	51	\$98,961
Concho Elementary	Concho Elementary School	50	\$64,259
Sahuarita Unified	Sahuarita Intermediate School	48	\$100,000
Parker Unified	Wallace Elementary School	48	\$71,011
Eloy Elementary	Curriel Annex School	45	\$18,234
Altar Valley Unified	Altar Valley Middle School	45	\$81,114
Avondale Elementary	Lattie Coor (West) Elementary School	45	\$60,913
Gilbert Unified	Gilbert High School	45	\$100,000
Fowler Elementary	District Office	45	\$58,008
Parker Unified	Wallace Junior High School	44	\$24,006
Sacaton Elementary	Sacaton Elementary School	43	\$31,107
Osborn Unified	Solano Elementary School	43	\$25,000
Osborn Unified	Osborn Middle School	43	\$5,000
Fowler Elementary	Sunridge Elementary School	43	\$98,880

Catalina Foothills Unified	Manzanita Elementary School	42	\$100,000
Sacaton Elementary	Sacaton Middle School	42	\$94,762
Osborn Unified	Clarendon Elementary School	42	\$16,000
Madison Elementary	Richard Simis Elementary School	41	\$100,000
Osborn Unified	Encanto Elementary School	41	\$7,500
Pine Strawberry Elementary	Pine Strawberry Elementary School	40	\$94,918
Gilbert Unified	Highland High School	40	\$48,395

In total, these projects will save \$497,243 per year, with an average payback of just over four years. If all 164 projects had been awarded, the projected annual savings would be \$1.2 million with a payback of just over nine years.

**SFB Approved New Construction Projects
FY 2008 Capital Plan Cycle**

Approval Date	District	Project	Grades	Student Capacity	Square Footage	Open FY	NC Funding
12/6/2007	Gila County Regional	School	7-12	90	10,000	2011	\$1,563,600
12/6/2007	Gila County Regional	School	7-12	63	7,000	2011	\$1,094,520
	Subtotal:			153	17,000		\$2,658,120
1/10/08	Sunnyside Unified	School	9-12	1,182	111,125	2011	\$18,203,386
1/10/08	Vail Unified	School	6-8	785	62,836	2011	\$8,732,947
	Subtotal:			1,967	173,961		\$26,936,333
2/7/08	Laveen Elementary	School	K-8	1,155	92,400	2011	\$12,545,148
	Subtotal:			1,155	92,400		\$12,545,148
3/6/08	Maricopa Unified	School	6-8	1,088	87,003	2011	\$12,091,677
3/6/08	Maricopa Unified	School	9-12	2,394	225,000	2011	\$36,857,250
3/6/08	Toltec Elementary	School	K-8	857	69,300	2011	\$9,408,861
	Subtotal:			4,339	381,303		\$58,357,788
4/3/08	Queen Creek Unified	School	9-12	1,153	108,375	2011	\$17,752,909
	Subtotal:			1,153	108,375		\$17,752,909
5/1/08	Thatcher Unified	Additional Space	K-6	116	9,270	2010	\$1,304,382
	Subtotal:			116	9,270		\$1,304,382
	Total:			8,883	782,309		\$119,554,680