



Green Schools Talking Points

- Green schools create drastic reductions in operational and maintenance costs. These savings can be better spent buying books and paying teacher salaries.
 - School districts see direct benefits accrue at a level of around 4 times the cost due to energy savings and other cost control mechanisms implemented.
 - The average green school cuts down on energy usage by 1/3. As energy costs continue to escalate, this decrease in energy usage will save schools a significant amount of money.
- The AIA's plan to invest \$25 billion in helping school districts repair, modernize and green school buildings would create approximately 435,000 jobs.
- Studies have shown that greening our schools improve test scores and learning comprehension.
 - A study commissioned by Massachusetts indicated that a 3-5% increase in test scores and overall learning ability can be conservatively expected.

Higher Ed

- Hundreds of "shovel ready" projects that are available now (or could be within 6 months) which will impact the economy immediately and create thousands of new jobs.
 - \$50 million for a new academic facility would create up to 1,000 construction-related jobs within 2 years.
 - \$1 billion for a statewide program would create 20,000 construction jobs.
- Universities are great for local economies because they not only employ local residents, but they bring in corporate and federal investments.
 - Michigan receives \$2 billion each year from Michigan State University's operational expenses (Anderson Economic Group, LLC – The Economic Impact of Michigan State University).
 - Hawaii's \$1.403 billion investment in education-related expenses in 2003 garnered:
 - \$1.973 billion in local business sales
 - \$1.243 billion in employee earnings
 - \$132 million in state tax revenues
 - 35,800 jobs
- According to the EPA building-related illnesses account for \$60 billion in lost productivity each year in the U.S.