CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ENERGY MODELING FOR SCHOOLS











Mark Jones, P.E, LEED AP, CCP

Associate, Mechanical Engineer

Mark Jones is a Mechanical Engineer who has been in the engineering field since 1996. Experienced at HVAC, piping and plumbing design, energy audits, life cycle cost analysis, and LEED energy modeling and commissioning. Up to date in the various mechanical, plumbing, and energy codes. In his well-rounded experience, he has designed commercial, industrial, municipal, educational, and residential mechanical and industrial process systems.



Patrick Steelman

Energy Analyst & Mechanical Designer

Mr. Steelman has been providing engineering services since 2019 for energy projects at R&W. His experience includes site visits to interview the owners on building operations, gathering required information, and documentation of HVAC equipment and the building. He also assembles energy models of the building's HVAC system; allowing him to understand the building's thermal envelope more completely.





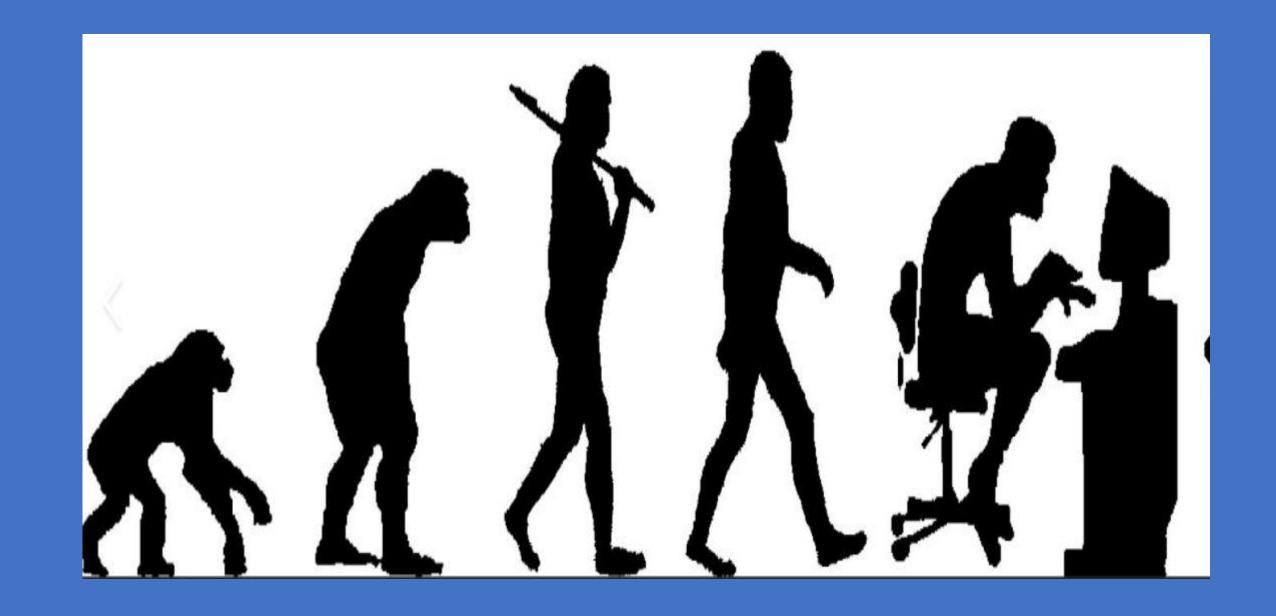
HISTORY OF SB1149, ENERGY TRUST, & SCHOOLS





EVOLUTION OF SB1149 & ENERGY TRUST SCHOOLS

- Early Challenges of programs for districts and modelers
- Recent Streamlining of programs



CHALLENGES SCHOOLS FACE RELATED TO ENERGY USE



"Complaining about a problem without posing a solution is called whining"

– Teddy Roosevelt

"I am ready to face any challenges that might be foolish enough to face me"

– Dwight from the show The Office









DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN
VARIOUS
ENERGY
PROGRAMS



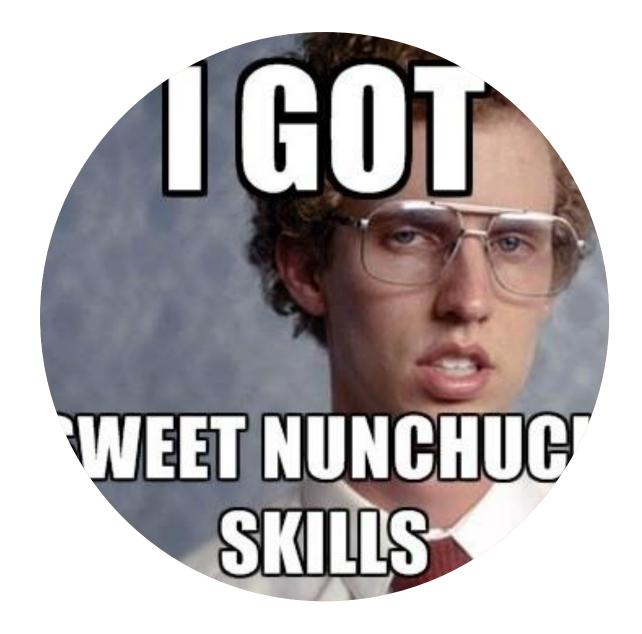
FUNDING OF OPERATIONS



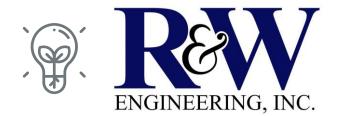
Staffing Shortage



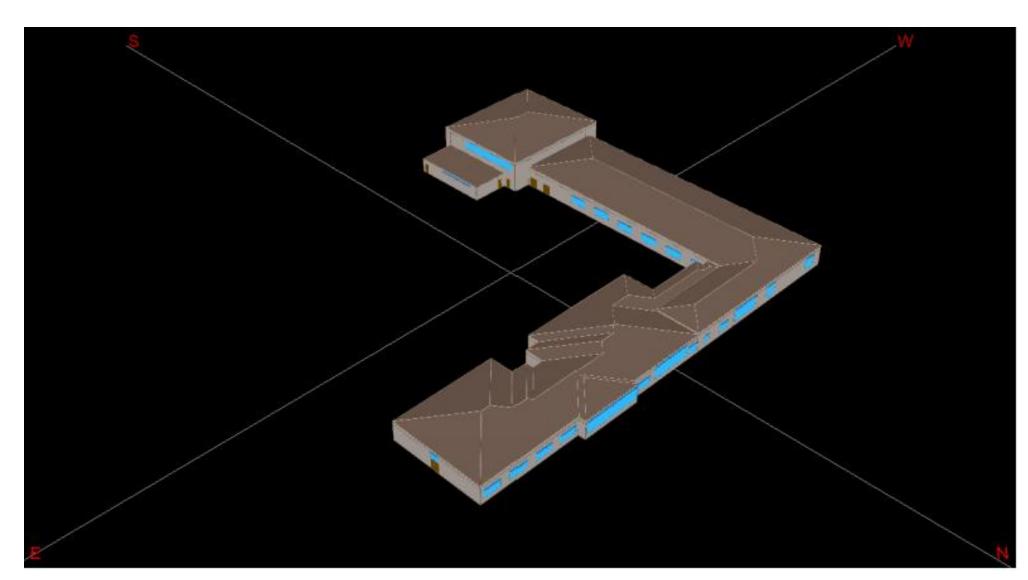
Lack of Equipment Maintenance



Shortage of Expertise



AGE OF BUILDINGS & SYSTEMS



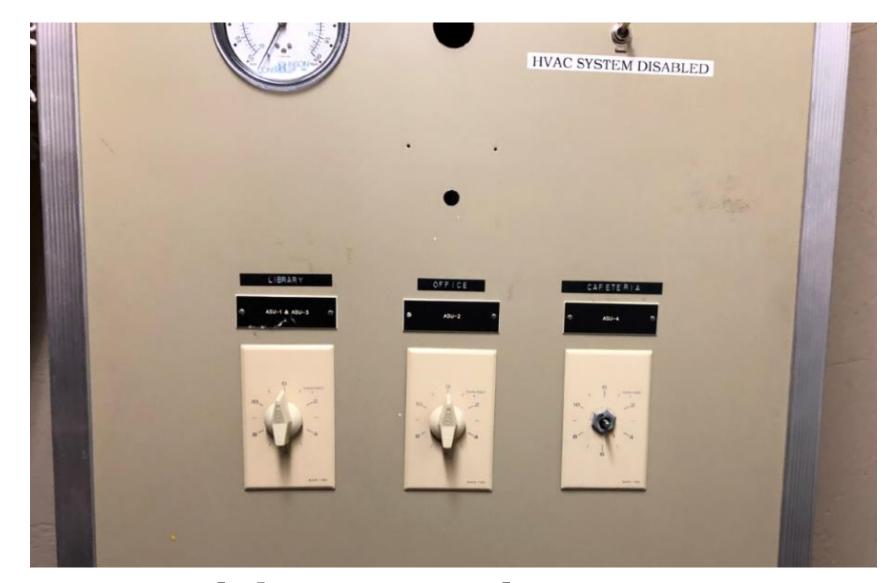
Building Envelope

Windows

Weatherstripping

Insulation

Infiltration



Old Control Systems

Pneumatics

Manual

Permanent Adjustments



AGE OF BUILDINGS & SYSTEMS



HVAC

Electric Strip Heating

Constant Volume Fans/Pumps

Inefficient Boilers



Lighting

Incandescent

Fluorescent

Lighting Controls



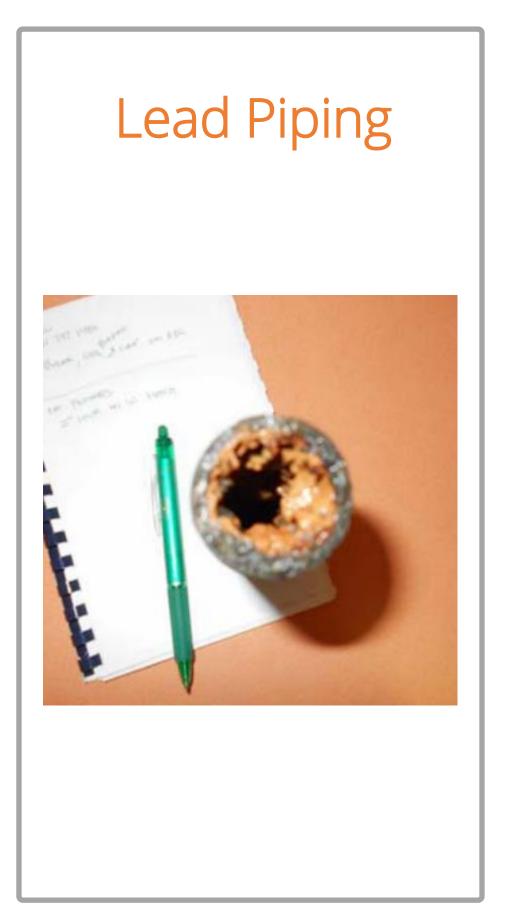
COMPETING PRIORITIES: HEIGHTENED BY COVID

Ventilation/Air Quality











RURAL SCHOOLS

ENERGY SOURCES OTHER THAN NATURAL GAS OR ELECTRICITY

Propane, heating oil, biomass
Not covered by Energy Trust of Oregon or SB1149

LOCATION

Far from equipment, service vendors and consulting engineers

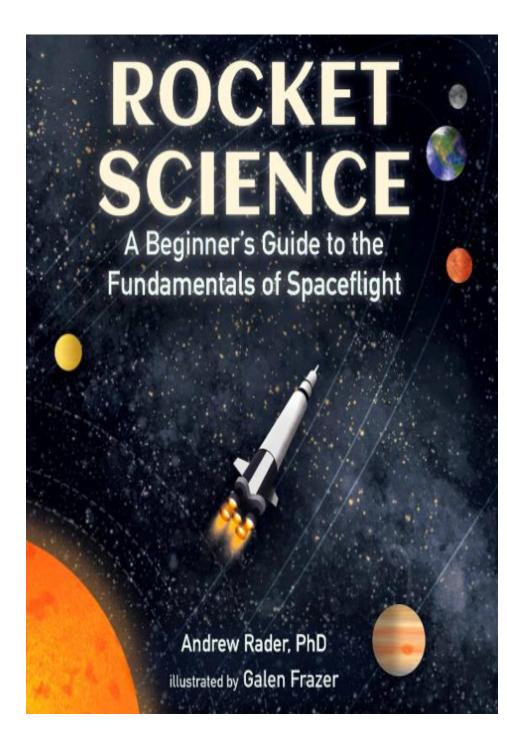
LACK OF POPULATION DENSITY

Often facility personnel wear many different hats

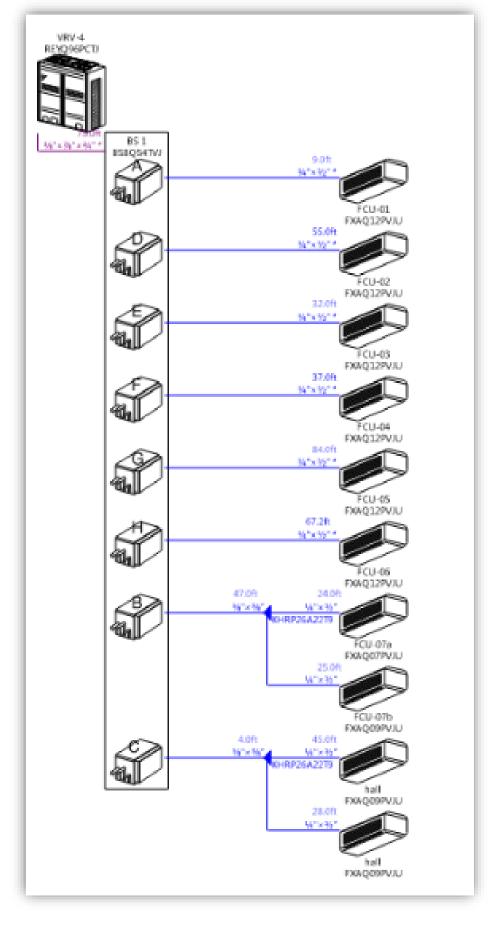




COMPLICATED MODERN SYSTEMS



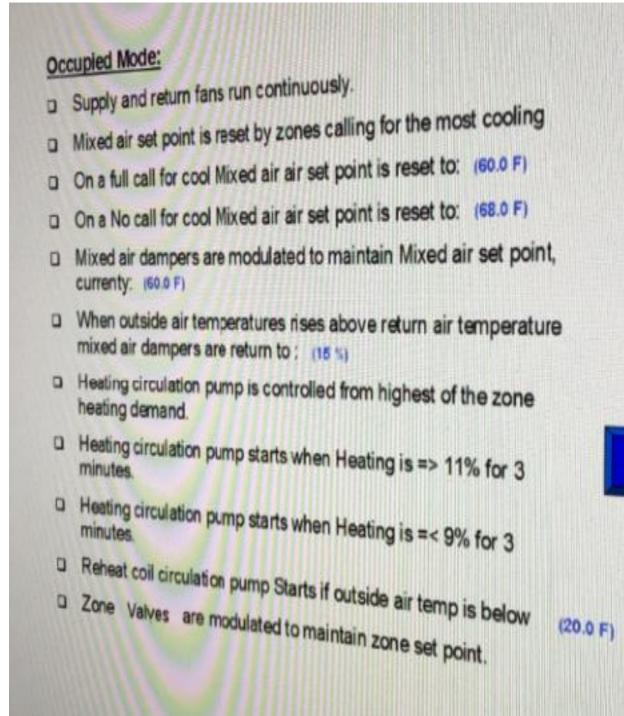
MODERN ENERGY CODE



VRF



HEAT RECOVERY



SOO



BUREAUCRACY



DIFFERENCES IN AGENCIES

HOW TO INTERFACE WITH AGENCIES

SEED & LEED

RECORD KEEPING



CHALLENGES
ENERGY
MODELERS FACE
(AND HOW WE
OVERCAME THEM)



GETTING ACCURATE INFORMATION

UTILITY DATA

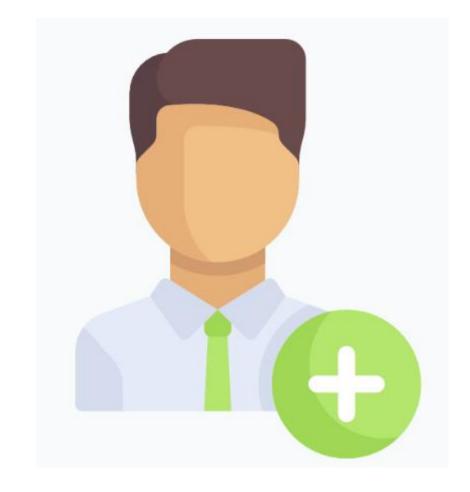
BUILDING INFO

DOCUMENTATION

PRICING











Crew No.	Bare Costs		Incl. Subs O&P		Cost Per Labor-Hou	
	Hr.	Daily	Hr.	Daily	Bare Costs	incl. 0&P
1 Carpenter Foreman (outside)	\$52.70	\$421.60	\$80.25	\$642.00	\$49.36	\$74.88
2 Carpenters	50.70	811.20	77.20	1235.20	100000 ES	
1 Rodman (reinf.)	54.65	437.20	83.45	667.60	1	
1 Laborer	39.85	318.80	60.70	485.60		334
1 Cement Finisher	47.55	380.40	70.45	563.60		
1 Gas Engine Vibrator	S. P. P. C. CO.	25.60	50.000000000000000000000000000000000000	28.16	.53	.59
48 L.H., Daily Totals		\$2394.80		\$3622.16	\$49.89	\$75.46



MODEL CALIBRATION

ART



- BE CONSISTENT
- MAKE REASONABLE ASSUMPTIONS
- LOOK AT BIG PICTURE + KEEP IT SIMPLE

SCIENCE



- BE CONSISTENT
- UTILIZE INFORMATION GATHERED
- COMPARE ENERGY USAGE RESULTS WITH DATA GATHERED



IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURE INCREASES ENERGY USE

SYSTEMS NOT OPERATING UP TO CODE OR NOT WORKING AT ALL

VENTILATION



ADDITION OF COOLING



BROKEN EQUIPMENT





CUSTOM MEASURES APPLICABLE TO SCHOOLS



- HVAC
 - Controls upgrades
 - VS Fans/pumps
 - VAV Upgrades
 - Heat Recovery
 - Retro-Commissioning



- Building Envelope
 - Window Upgrades
 - Weatherstripping
 - Insulation



- Lighting
 - LED Upgrades
 - Lighting Controls



NEW BUILDING CHALLENGES

Remodels, Major Demolition and Additions



EXISTING BUILDINGS PROGRAM VS NEW BUILDINGS PROGRAM

Going Higher Than Current Code



DIFFICULT TO COME UP WITH ENERGY SAVINGS WHEN COMPARING AGAINST EFFICIENT CODE REQUIREMENTS



OPPORTUNITIES



ODOE PROGRAMS





ETO PROGRAMS



LOCAL UTILITIES



BPA PROGRAMS



COVID MONEY



CONCLUSION



QUESTIONS







Associate, Mechanical Engineer

503-726-3324 mjones@rweng.com



Patrick Steelman

Energy Analyst & Mechanical Designer

503-726-3335 psteelman@rweng.com