

## CPM's Sustainability Tips

January 2010:

**Do you know how many hamburgers it takes to generate electricity for one day at an elementary school? The Fairmont elementary school children do.**

When building an energy-efficient school, the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) requires schools to use educational displays to promote the sustainable building attributes to achieve the minimum level of these building rating systems. Developing these educational displays is a prerequisite to achieve certification in the CHPS rating system and can contribute an Innovation credit in the LEED program.

One way to meet this requirement is through a creative high-tech solution – a touch-screen interactive flat panel that shows the students real-time energy generation and resource consumption. By touching an icon, students can see how much energy the wind turbines generate. The display is tied into the energy management system, power meters, gas meter, water meters and the wind and solar electricity generating systems and can be accessed from anywhere in the District. Best of all, the units of measurement can be provided in both traditional technical units, like kilowatts, or can be converted into cheeseburgers – like 600 cheeseburgers are required to generate enough electricity for one day of lights in the classroom. For more information on installing and implementing an IFP, contact CPM at <http://www.capitalpm.com>.