

CASE STUDY:

Indoff and Barat Academy join forces to create a brighter, more effective learning environment for students by installing LED lighting.

Barat Academy, a private, independent Catholic college preparatory school in St. Louis, was faced with a daunting challenge. While they needed to upgrade their facilities, particularly the lighting, other needs had been prioritized for the 2019 school year. It looked like another term would pass without addressing substandard lighting.

Creating an LED Solution Through Teamwork

John Vasquez, an Indoff Energy Solutions Sales and Service Representative, brought together a collection of companies that found a way to accomplish this project. Since Barat Academy owned its building and land, Vasquez started by arranging the financing through a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) loan. It allowed Barat Academy to begin the project without putting a single dollar down. Indoff and Vasquez installed Eiko Flat Panels throughout the school's classrooms and halls, Sigma Luminous Zone 2 LED for the gym and exterior, and Lutron Occupancy Sensors in the restrooms and conference rooms. Vasquez secured for Barat a \$23,000 incentive from the local energy company based on the products' energy efficiency.

The project began once summer vacation started and was finished well before students returned for the next school year that fall. The outcome was improved lighting for all the classrooms and a safer, more secure exterior for students, teachers, and visitors.



GOALS

- Create a more effective learning environment for students which would lead to improved test scores.
- Lower monthly electric costs by upgrading to energy-efficient LED lighting where appropriate.

STRATEGY

- To partner Barat Academy with an area Clean Energy financing provider, the local electrical company, and Indoff to maximize a **no money down** loan program, energy rebates, and quality product offerings.
- Install lighting that has been shown, when used correctly,* to lead to enhanced learning and overall student productivity.

RESULTS

- Over 1,000 LED lights were installed, resulting in an estimated \$30,600, a **50% savings** in energy and maintenance per year for Barat.
- Barat Academy qualified for an over \$23,000 incentive rebate from the local energy company.

"Cash flow is always a major concern for any non-profit private school. By working with Indoff Energy Solutions, our regional clean energy organization and our regional utility company, we were able to put together a no money down solution that started to show immediate financial payback from the first time we flipped on the light switch. But the most important aspect was that we improved our school so students and teachers can learn in a more inviting environment."

Debby Watson
President, Barat Academy

*Study conducted by Dr. Michael Schulte-Markwort, Director of the Clinic for Psychosomatics in Children and Juveniles at the University Medical Centre Hamburg-Eppendorf

Indoff