

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Northland Pines Retains Status as First LEED® Gold Public High School in U.S.

Eagle River, Wis. — The Northland Pines School District is pleased to announce that Northland Pines High School (NPHS) will retain its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Gold certification. According to the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC®), which recently completed a detailed review of the NPHS certification and performance data, the high school met all of the requirements and retained all LEED points for the certification that it had been originally awarded in the spring of 2007.

Recognized as the first LEED certified school building in Wisconsin, Northland Pines was the first public high school in the United States to achieve a LEED Gold certification, earning 40 points under LEED-New Construction.

Northland Pines' Gold certification was reviewed by USGBC after being challenged by a group of individuals in Eagle River. The review followed the 2009 Challenge Policy of USGBC, which manages the LEED Program. Included in the review was an examination of materials from the original LEED certification submittal, analysis of energy performance data, and a site visit by staff from USGBC and their independent consultants.

The USGBC's ruling validates the outstanding effort by the Northland Pines School District Board of Education, administrators, residents, and the design and construction team that delivered the new school—led by Appleton-based Total Project Manager Hoffman LLC that provided the referendum, planning, design, and construction management services for the new high school. The combined efforts of this group provided the community with a high-performance green school at a total project cost of \$116 per square foot which is 25% below the regional average square foot cost of \$154 for high schools built in 2006.

“The citizens of the Northland Pines School District made a pioneering commitment to a high performance facility and environmental protection when they decided to build a new green high school,” commented Dr. Michael Richie, Northland Pines School District Administrator. “This commitment resulted in an outstanding new school that provides an

exceptional learning environment with a strong connection to the Northwoods through daylight and views. I want to thank the School Board and staff for their significant efforts and cooperation in working with USGBC on this review. We look forward to making the very best use of the award winning, sustainable Northland Pines High School in supporting our education programs and preparing our students for a bright future.”

“We are extremely pleased with the ruling from USGBC on Northland Pines High School and are very happy for the entire district and community,” said Paul Hoffman, President and Owner of Hoffman, LLC.”

In addition to the original total project cost savings, Northland Pines has experienced significant operating cost savings in energy and water use. As initially designed, estimated annual energy cost savings based on energy modeling were in excess of \$130,000 per year compared to the LEED baseline. “As originally designed, we anticipated substantial energy cost savings and we are proud to say the high school is exceeding our initial expectations. Actual energy costs for the last full school year (2008/2009) came in 9 percent lower than predicted in the energy estimates,” said Mark Hanson, director of sustainable services at Hoffman, LLC.

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