## Northwest Arkansas Democrat Arkansas

## **Little Rock District Honored for Energy Savings**

by **Cynthia Howell** | December 11, 2022 at 3:45 a.m.

The National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO) and partner Performance Services last week presented the Little Rock School District with an award and a ceremonial check for the district's efforts to make buildings more energy efficient.

Timothy Unruh, executive director of the national association, presented the organization award to Little Rock district leaders at a ceremony at Stephens Elementary School. The organization will make a donation to a charitable entity of the district's choice.

The National Association of Energy Service Companies Award honors the achievements of and recognizes exemplary projects from member companies that show the full potential of public-private partnerships, according to information from the school district.

Efforts recognized by the award include significant or unique savings, innovative project approaches or technology uses, overcoming significant project obstacles, achieving environmental justice goals, and incorporating community development and outreach.

The school district began its energy efficiency initiative in 2017, replacing exterior lighting with LED high-efficiency lighting district-wide, and upgrading significant equipment and controls at six district locations. The work included replacement of inefficient heating and air conditioning equipment, interior lighting upgrades and weatherization improvements.

Stephens Elementary was selected as the host site for Wednesday's event because it had been one of the district's biggest energy consumers prior to the upgrades.