

Mound City School Board Considering Solar Power Opportunity

(KLZA) -- The Mound City Board of Education members have a couple of interesting things from last weeks board meeting to ponder until the October Board meeting.

Solar power for the districts buildings and a new program that might allow for some free college education for Mound City students were discussed last week.

The solar power program was proposed by a company called Brighetergy Inc. and proposed a lease agreement between the company and the Mound City district to help save money on energy.

Superintendent Ken Eaton explains how the program works once the solar panels were placed on the gymnasium room and the roof of the vocational building across the street.

While the anticipated \$2,400 annual savings is not big dollars, the savings will approach \$100,000 over the live of the lease.

In addition to the savings, the program also offers a program teachers can utilize the classroom. Teachers can log into the system and see how much power is being produced. There is also a curriculum that could be used as a education unit.

A final decision on whether to move forward is expected at the October Board meeting.

The Missouri Department of Education has named the Mound City School District an A-Plus District. With that designation, qualifying students have an opportunity to earn a couple of years free tuition and book money when they go to college. Over their four year high school career, qualifying students can earn two years free at a technical school or a participating four year college. Superintendent Ken Eaton said it sounds like a good program. He noted that while not every kid will take advantage of it but if two or three students a year can earn free tuition, it is worth checking into.

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