



## News Release

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For Immediate Release

### **Marcus Garvey EnergyNet Team Continues to Excel**

Over the past several years, students working with Ms. Walls and Mr. Vaughn have been tackling energy waste in their Chicago Public School. The results in this all electric school are verifiable energy savings of 18.82% since the 2005-2006 school year.

The Garvey EnergyNet team consists of elementary students who formed an Energy Detective Agency led by middle school students serving as Energy Coaches. By conducting energy assessments called “stakeouts” these energy sleuths have come to understand the equipment and the people that provide and use energy in their school. At the same time, students have learned and applied the content required by the Learning Standards for Science, Technology, English and Math (STEM). A student learning data assessment tool was sent to participating teachers. Responses indicated an improvement in grades in all STEM disciplines with Science grades having the most significant increase. In addition, students who were receiving failing grades the year prior to EnergyNet all brought up their grades during the EnergyNet implementation year.

Team work and problem solving skills are also integral to the program. In particular, middle school students working as Coaches really respond to the opportunity to serve as positive role models for the younger students. The result is a reduction in discipline problems and a student better prepared for the high school environment. A Garvey student put it best “All of our detectives are winners because we are all stars because we all save energy!”

According to Carol Timms, EnergyNet’s director attributes EnergyNet’s success to “The combination of relevant material; an important topic like energy and the environment; and challenging and rigorous learning outcomes.” The EnergyNet program at Marcus Garvey Elementary School is being funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Schools interested in participating in EnergyNet are encouraged to contact Ms. Timms at 877.359.3638.