



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Four Wisconsin School Districts Receive \$1,500 Scholarships from Trane in Energy Star School Challenge**

*- Scholarships to support students pursuing science, technology, engineering and math careers -*

**Stevens Point, Wis., Aug. 30, 2010** – Four Wisconsin school districts received a \$1,500 scholarship to award to students pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Trane, a leading global provider of indoor comfort systems and solutions, awarded the scholarships to representatives from the following school districts at the STEM Scholarship Banquet on Thursday, Aug. 5 at SentryWorld in Stevens Point:

- Racine Unified
- Tomorrow River
- Wausau
- Wisconsin Heights

School districts were selected based on their participation in the Energy Star School Challenge (ESSC), demonstration of energy conservation and efficiency efforts, and potential impact of the award.

Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton teamed with the Environmental Protection Agency and issued the ESSC to Wisconsin school districts, asking them to commit to reduce their energy consumption by 10 percent or more, to develop a plan and track their performance, and then educate the staff and community about the importance of energy efficiency. Her office and the EPA provide tools and a network of support. Today, Wisconsin leads the nation with roughly 25 percent of all ESSC schools coming from the Badger State.

"Schools taking up the Energy Star challenge are teaching science and citizenship by example and developing the creative capacities of their students by engaging them in discovery of new strategies for energy efficiency and alternative energy sources," said Lawton. "With these scholarships, those students are encouraged to turn that experience into a bright future, with the opportunity to innovate the definition of 'greatness' to be meaningful in this 21<sup>st</sup> century."

Lawton and Wisconsin Association of School Boards Executive Director John Ashley presented at the Scholarship Banquet on the ESSC, STEM career opportunities and the importance of green jobs in today's environment.

"Wisconsin Heights is honored to receive the Trane Scholarship Award," said Mark Elworthy, district administrator for the Wisconsin Heights School District. "We are proud of what we have accomplished in terms of energy conservation and stewardship. We have used our savings to start other conservation programs and allocated other dollars to curriculum projects."

"The STEM scholarship is great for the students of Racine who are interested in going into engineering, math or sciences," said Frank Jarosz, director of operations and facilities for the Racine Unified School District. "A scholarship like the Progress is Greener Trane STEM Scholarship is going to help students become more interested in these fields."

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#### **About Trane**

Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand - the world leader in creating and sustaining safe, comfortable and energy efficient environments - improves the performance of homes and buildings around the world. Trane solutions optimize indoor environments with a broad portfolio of energy efficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, building and contracting services, parts support and advanced controls for homes and commercial buildings. For more information, visit [www.Trane.com](http://www.Trane.com).

**Reporters may contact:** Melinda Paulson, (651) 295-1148, [mpaulson@trane.com](mailto:mpaulson@trane.com)