



MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

Frank A. Barnitz
16th Senatorial District
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Sen. Frank Barnitz Announces Conservation Grants Awarded to Area Schools

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, today announced that the Department of Conservation has chosen two area school districts to receive Fuels-for-Schools project grants. Steelville R-3 will receive \$900,000 and Rolla 31 will receive \$760,000 to convert their current heating system to more be more energy efficient.

The Fuels-for-Schools program funding is provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The program helps public schools retrofit their current fuel or gas heating system to a biomass heating system, which can significantly reduce heating costs.

Steelville R-3 and Rolla 31 school districts' grant proposals were reviewed by an eight person committee. Feasibility contractors provided by the USDA Forest Service also evaluated projects before the final selections were made.

“Missouri is one of the lowest cost states for energy services, and if we want this to continue, we must be able to provide energy security,” said Sen. Barnitz. “With the strain of the economy, it is also helpful that energy efficiently is cost effective. I applaud the Rolla and Steelville school districts for applying for these grants, and I look forward to seeing the finished systems in action.”

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