

Solar on the Roof, Power in the Classroom

CHALLENGE

Mitigate air conditioning costs and consumption of the school gymnasium

SOLUTION

Install a solar system sized to offset electricity bill increases while providing a fast return on investment

RESULT

Higher production than expected: yield of 105%

Thousands of dollars in savings each month



“Enphase delivered the best technology for the school as well as an amazing teaching tool for the students.”

—Jim Jenal
Founder and CEO
Run on Sun

At a school where student-run clubs like the Green Guerillas are dedicated to encouraging sustainability, adding solar to the roof of Westridge was a no-brainer, especially given the energy savings.

Bigger and Better Solar

The Westridge School for Girls in Pasadena, CA, is no stranger to solar, having installed a PV solar system in 2008. The original, small system was located next to the school’s LEED-Certified Platinum science and math building, where students could view the panels up close and get a hands-on appreciation of the technology. But when plans for a new solar project were set in motion, school officials were thinking bigger.

After responding to perennial requests from parents and students to improve the school gymnasium’s boiling temperature, Westridge installed an air-conditioning



The Enphase-powered array has been flawlessly producing electricity since 2012 and is being monitored and managed with the Enlighten Manager software.

system in the gym to keep crowds cool on hot days. The financial impact of running the system was substantial, however, and the power supply wasn't environmentally friendly.

Enter Enphase: Run on Sun's Enphase-powered array was designed and installed in 2012 to utilize the campus' largest rooftop, the Fran Norris Scoble Performing Arts Center (PAC), where the panels could receive the most direct sunlight, remain elevated enough to tidily keep the operation out of sight, and supply all the energy needed for the gym's A/C system.

In less than two weeks, Run on Sun seamlessly installed the 52kW system, designed to generate enough power to supply the equivalent of 10 homes' consumption.

The Ability to Educate

Westridge's new solar installation has been integrated into the school's curriculum, giving students the ability to actively engage in experimental learning through first-hand monitoring and analysis via Enphase's Enlighten monitoring platform.

"This was a great project for us," explained Run on Sun's Founder and CEO, Jim Jenal. "It is not every day that you get to work with a client who is as dedicated to sustainability as Westridge."

Three Years Later

Nearly three years after installation, Westridge's system has produced 276MWh of clean energy and slashed electricity

INSTALLATION SUMMARY

Client **Westridge School for Girls**

Location **Pasadena, CA**

Installer **Run on Sun**

System Size **52kW**

Microinverters **Enphase M215**

Modules **250W LG Electronics**

expenses by thousands of dollars each month.

"The Enphase system has exceeded expectations, producing 105% of predicted yield. That means the school has saved more than what was modeled, in two ways: lower energy bills, plus a higher, performance-based rebate," said Jenal.

Having experienced the true benefits of Enphase technology, Westridge already has plans to add another Enphase systems to the campus, as part of its gym renovation next year.

With Enphase, Westridge could see immediate, tangible benefits from technology that is built to perform from the day it is installed through the rest of its lifecycle.

About Enphase Energy

The Enphase System revolutionizes solar power generation with industry-leading technology innovation. Enphase's proven microinverter technology maximizes production of each module, which works together with advanced communications hardware and an intelligent software platform to deliver a reliable, high-performance solar array.

To learn more about the benefits of the Enphase System, visit enphase.com/commercial.

