



BY THE NUMBERS

- **4** VBCPS schools
- **70%** emissions reduction by 2030
- **\$4.2M** energy cost savings

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The energy cost savings from the solar energy will help the school district save a staggering \$4.2 million over 30 years, with no up-front or ongoing maintenance costs affiliated with the project.

SOLAR SCHOOLS PROVIDE CLIMATE MITIGATION FOR VIRGINIA BEACH

In 2020, Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) opted to power four of its schools—including Ocean Lakes Elementary School, Princess Anne Middle School, Renaissance Academy, and Thoroughgood Academy—with solar energy. The district worked with local developer Sun Tribe Solar to install the rooftop arrays, capable of generating nearly 2.2 megawatts of renewable energy.

VBCPS also operates an advanced sustainability and facilities management division, serving as a state leader for modern, efficient energy programs. The area's commitment to conservation and clean energy programming have also benefited the district's budget — energy cost savings from the four solar installations will help the school district save a staggering \$4.2 million over 30 years.

The greater Hampton Roads and Virginia Beach regions are also among the most vulnerable areas in the state to “blue-sky” flooding and hurricanes, giving the school district added incentive to adopt effective climate mitigation strategies and clean energy technologies. In total, the solar power generated from the schools will help the city to cut its total emissions by 70% over the next decade.

SUPPORT MORE PROJECTS LIKE THESE

Making the investment tax credit (ITC) for solar refundable, supporting increased access to advanced energy for local governments, and providing funding to increase resilience and deploy more distributed energy resources can bring more projects like this to Virginia.