



## **Conejo Valley Unified School District Saves 40 Percent in Energy Costs at 30 Locations, Thanks to Venstar's SchoolStat Thermostats**

### **Remote Access to Thermostats Gives Control of Energy Use, Saves Time**

CHATSWORTH, Calif., June 14, 2017 — [Venstar®](#), a leading thermostat and energy management systems (EMS) manufacturer, today announced that its SchoolStat® thermostats has helped the Conejo Valley Unified School District save 40 percent in energy costs.

“Venstar’s SchoolStat thermostats are designed to help schools reduce energy costs while maintaining indoor comfort for students and ease of use for faculty. With Venstar’s Skyport Cloud Services, global changes can be made to all of the thermostats at the same time,” said Steve Dushane, president and CEO of Venstar Inc.

“Venstar’s SchoolStat thermostats have greatly contributed to reducing energy usage by 40 percent for our school district and have made it easier than ever for our teachers to have comfortable classrooms and for our maintenance team to reduce the time it takes to manage the thermostats. We are very happy with our SchoolStat thermostats,” Rick Freed, energy manager and educator for Conejo Valley Unified School District.

### **Challenge: Reduce and Control Energy Usage at 30 School District Sites**

Located in Southern California, just north of Los Angeles, the Conejo Valley has temperatures that range from below freezing in the winter to well above 100 degrees in the summer. The school district has hundreds of thermostats across 30 sites, which include school campuses, offices and warehouses. Rick Freed, the energy manager and educator for the Conejo Valley Unified School District, wanted to be able to remotely monitor, control and make global changes across the thermostats with the ultimate objective of reducing energy usage and costs.

### **Results: 40 Percent Reduction in Energy Costs for the School District**

In one year, the school district saved 40 percent on its energy costs, a significant portion of which Freed attributes to Venstar SchoolStat thermostats. According to Freed, the savings are expected to increase exponentially as the district continues to expand its use of Wi-Fi®-enabled SchoolStat thermostats and other energy-saving efforts.

Using Venstar's free Skyport™ Mobile App to make global changes saves Freed and the maintenance team days' worth of work. Freed uses Skyport's global changes to ensure uniform schedule programming across the school district's 30 locations. Because Freed can make global changes to all of the Wi-Fi-enabled thermostats at the same time from his computer, there's no need for changes to be made at individual thermostats.

Venstar's thermostats with free Skyport Cloud Services help ensure consistent, comfortable temperatures at the Conejo Valley Unified School District campuses, offices and warehouses, no matter how hot or cold it is outside. Skyport provides remote access to the thermostats so Freed can easily access, monitor and program the thermostats from virtually anywhere there's Internet access.

### **Solution: Venstar's T4900SCH SchoolStat With Skyport Wi-Fi Services**

With Venstar's T4900SCH SchoolStat thermostats, Freed uses his mobile phone, tablet or desktop computer to remotely access and control the thermostats anywhere across the district's 30 campuses. Whether he's in his office, at home or traveling, he can quickly and easily access and control the thermostats using Venstar's free Skyport Mobile App virtually anywhere there is Internet access.

Freed appreciates the ability to remotely put the Wi-Fi-enabled SchoolStat thermostats into the unoccupied mode during summer and winter breaks using the free Skyport Mobile App and to put them back into occupied mode for the school year. Previously, with the district's older thermostats that were not Wi-Fi-enabled, the maintenance team had to manually turn off each thermostat. Freed estimates it took three maintenance workers up to four days to turn the thermostats on or off.

He credits the SchoolStat thermostats with saving a considerable amount of energy with a simple "push to start" button. To enable heating or cooling, teachers must use the "push to start" button when they need it. For most of the year, the classrooms do not need to be heated or cooled in the mornings, so there is a considerable reduction in energy usage over the previous thermostats that were set to run the HVAC equipment during all school hours. Now, heating and cooling is only used when needed.

The classroom thermostats are also pre-programmed with setpoint limits, giving teachers some flexibility of temperature within reasonable limits. Freed has the setpoints programmed to give teachers four degrees up or down in heating or cooling. Teachers can adjust the thermostats within those setpoint limits, allowing them to set their own comfortable temperatures while maintaining the security of the thermostats. If there are complaints about classrooms being too hot or too cold, Freed can use Venstar's Skyport website to check the actual room temperatures, allowing him to respond quickly to any potential problems.

### **About Venstar SchoolStat Thermostats**

Venstar's SchoolStat thermostat is designed specifically for classroom and other on-campus uses. It features energy-saving operation including unoccupied-until-button-press feature, programmable override, setpoint-limiting security and separate weekend/weekday programmability. When combined with free Skyport Cloud Services and Venstar's free Skyport Mobile App, energy managers can use their Apple iOS®, Android™, or BlackBerry® mobile devices or access Skyport directly from the Web to instantly access and control multiple Wi-Fi thermostats at numerous locations. Compatible with virtually any type of HVAC equipment, Venstar's SchoolStat combines energy savings with classroom comfort, giving energy managers and teachers an easy-to-use solution that saves time and effort.

### **About Conejo Valley Unified School District**

[Conejo Unified School District](#) is the K–12 school district serving Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park and Westlake Village. It encompasses more than 30 sites, including campuses, offices and warehouses.

### **About Venstar Inc.**

[Venstar Inc.](#) is a leading thermostat and energy management system (EMS) manufacturer, known for providing value to its customers via ease of use and installation, proven cost savings, improved energy efficiency, quality and reliability. Founded in 1992, Venstar is one of the largest thermostat suppliers in the world and designs and produces Venstar-branded products as well as OEM thermostat products for the biggest names in HVAC. Venstar's Surveyor is a leading energy management system, typically saving small-box retailers 20–35 percent of their energy costs, which translates to tens of millions of dollars in savings each year and dramatic reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Surveyor currently controls the energy usage of 25,000+ retail locations across the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Mexico.

For more information about Venstar's thermostats, please visit:

<http://www.venstar.com/thermostats/>

For thermostat product videos, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/user/venstarinc>

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