



U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL
IDAHO CHAPTER

Contact Information:

Sharon Patterson
sharon@buildingecoedge.com

USGBC IDAHO CHAPTER RAISING AWARENESS FOR GREEN SCHOOLS

Boise, Idaho – (April 28, 2011) - The U.S. Green Building Council® (USGBC) Idaho Chapter announce its **Green Schools Initiative** to take place at the upcoming Idaho Green Expo on May 14 and 15 in Boise. A green school creates a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources and money.

As education reform seems to be at the forefront of national and local debate, USGBC intends to highlight the value of **greening** schools to reduce operating costs, improve student performance and protect the environment. At the Idaho Green Expo, in the Boise Centre, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM on May 14, the Idaho Chapter will offer a range of presentations, discussions and resolutions from teachers, students, superintendents, advocates and local leaders.

At 1:00 PM, representatives from the Office of Energy Resources will share how schools have benefited from energy audits of over 700 K-12 schools in Idaho.

At 2:00 PM, the chapter invites all individuals interested in joining the Green Schools Initiative to join local leaders in signing a resolution and discussing how to green our schools within a generation. Organizers intend to fill the Boise Centre's Summit Auditorium with students, teachers, parents, superintendents, school board representatives and other concerned citizens. This is a prime opportunity for media to attend.

At 3:00 PM, attention will focus on the impressive green initiatives taking place in the Caldwell School District and Treasure Valley Community College, which are resulting in greater profit and prosperity in schools as well as the community. Superintendent Roger Quarles will be speaking firsthand on their experience building LEED-certified schools.

At 4:00 PM, the chapter will honor the teachers who are leading the way in greening the learning experience for students. They will describe how lessons of alternative energy, environmental stewardship and green living are learned in their classrooms.

USGBC Idaho is dedicated to raising public awareness of the value of green building, and in particular of green schools, through these events at the Idaho Green Expo and through the new radio show launching on Radio Boise, KRBX 89.9FM, in May, 2011. Greening Idaho's schools is a critical step in creating a prosperous and sustainable future generation.

###

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. USGBC Idaho Chapter is a 501(c)3 organization in Idaho dedicated to accelerating the implementation of sustainable planning and building concepts, technologies and practices in Idaho through education and advocacy. The members envision a healthy and sustainable future through the promotion and application of environmentally, economically, and socially responsible strategies to the built environment. www.usgbcidaho.org