



international schools' site of alternative energy

Dear readers,

welcome to the class 12IA81 forum of Martin-Behaim-School in Darmstadt, Germany. We would like to invite you to report on your way of using energy at your school: are you trying to save energy? How does that work? Have you ever thought of using any kinds of alternative energy, or have you made experiences in that field already?

We would also be thankful for your report in case you have never thought of using alternatives or saving energy - this is quite similar to our situation, as we are run in a municipal building and there is no chance to install new environmentally-friendly sources of energy - but perhaps you found out ways of saving energy free of charge or at a reasonable price? Please tell us about it, so we (and other schools) can make a profit from that.

Help us to save our environment and our planet earth - we all can only stand to gain from it!

Thanks for your help, best regards from Darmstadt

Your class 12IA81

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01 **Environmentally friendly efforts in Darmstadt**

Darmstadt is the first City in Germany that fuels every "S-Bahn" with green electricity, so it's 100% clean and moves without ejecting greenhouse gases or other harmful gases. [..more](#)



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Environmentally friendly efforts in Darmstadt

Darmstadt is the first City in Germany that fuels every "S-Bahn" with green electricity, so it's 100% clean and moves without ejecting greenhouse gases or other harmful gases.

The energy of the 'S-Bahn' is about 420.000 kWh and comes from fully certified environment-friendly sources. Therefore the emissions are completely neutralized and about 257 tons of CO2 are saved every year.

The TU Darmstadt is researching a car that just needs hydrogen fuel to drive; everything that this car will produce is clean water but no greenhouse gases.

There is some wind-energy that is in use in Darmstadt, it's from the windmills in Groß-Umstadt, a village nearby.

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Martin-Beheim-School, Darmstadt



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Martin-Behaim-School, Darmstadt

About our school

Schoolinfo

Martin Behaim was born on 06-October-1459 in Nuremberg. He was a German navigator and geographer to the King of Portugal. Martin Behaim died on 29-July-1507.

About our school

Energy efficiency

Martin-Behaim-School was founded in Darmstadt in 1922. In 1976 they rebuilt it in the Berufsschulzentrum Nord in Alsfelderstrasse 23 in Darmstadt.

Pictures

Class

It's a vocational school with over 2000 pupils and students. They are taught by 71 teachers and 24 assistant teachers. Two of three pupils are visiting the college for economy and administration. The other pupils are splitted in different groups like college for health and informatics or professional school for economy, administration, computing science and tourism.

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Martin-Behaim-School, Darmstadt

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Energy efficiency

The energy situation in our school is dismal. Our school, built in the mid seventies, lacks most of the energy saving comforts present in more recently built structures. For example, the school relies on a teleheating system whose warmth more often than not ends up outside the buildings it's supposed to heat because of the way the school has been built. The large windows, interspaces and especially the roof (built in a special triangular way) prove to be hard to insulate. Another problem is the way the school is cooled. The system employed, a [Kältewerk (Englisch?)], is in use for all three schools, and unfortunately is not very efficient. The temperature is lowered by only a few degrees and the energy used to keep that system in place far outweighs its benefit.

Of the three schools, only the Heinrich-Emanuel-Merck-Schule has tried its hand in using alternative energies. The HEMS uses a small photovoltaic generator that creates enough electricity to power one room.

However that has remained the only attempt to modernise the way energy has been supplied to our schools. Mostly lack of funding has stopped any attempts dead in its tracks and even if the finances would suffice, the question has to be raised, if the schools can be modernised efficiently. More photovoltaic cells could be installed, however, because of a lack in oversight during the construction process of the schools, most of the space that could be used for it is facing in the wrong direction. In a conversation with the janitor, he said: "If this was my house, I'd get in an excavator and demolish it."



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school construction



air circulator



classroom heater



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