



News Release  
For Immediate Release

Creative Learning Systems Introduces Alternative Energy SmartLab™ to  
Teach Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

*21<sup>st</sup> century technology lab helps students learn subject-area concepts, energy conservation and develop sustainable solutions through project-based instruction*

LONGMONT, Colo. (Dec. 16, 2008) – [Creative Learning Systems](#), a developer of 21<sup>st</sup> century learning labs and media production systems for K-12 schools and districts, today introduces the Alternative Energy SmartLab. The technology lab engages students in both hands-on and research-based investigation into sources of alternative energy and provides the opportunity to use their ingenuity and knowledge to create solutions that reduce energy consumption and conserve the earth's natural resources.

The Alternative Energy SmartLab provides students with an overview of alternative and renewable energy sources, including solar, wind, hydrogen, and geothermal energy. Students then explore these areas in more depth, conducting independent research and designing demonstration projects. Students participate in extensive hands-on experimentation building solar-powered cars, designing wind-turbine propellers, using hydrogen fuel cells, and cooking with solar ovens.

Creative Learning Systems designs the SmartLab based on the school's needs, and installs computer workstations, a technology-enabled group learning zone, and construction and experimentation areas. This multidisciplinary program integrates academic subjects such as science, math, social studies, civics, and economics.

Creative Learning Systems is piloting the Alternative Energy SmartLab in a full-year program with introductory and advanced courses in [Whitmore Lake High School](#) in Whitmore Lake, Mich. Opened in 2007, Whitmore Lake High School received Silver LEED Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. It's innovative, environmentally friendly design features a geothermal heat pump system engineered with 47 miles of underground tubing.

"This is a groundbreaking program – the first of its kind offered in a U.S. high school dedicated exclusively to the study of alternative energy," said Matt Dickstein, CEO for Creative Learning Systems.

Whitmore Lake High School educators and school leaders also understand the importance of preparing students for jobs in a state economy where alternative energy is an increasingly important factor. "To fulfill our vision, it was not enough to build a green building, we needed to be a leader in green education as well," said Tom DeKeyser, the school's principal.

The Alternative Energy SmartLab features a project-based, student-centered approach that challenges and engages students of all abilities. Students develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, project planning, and communication. In cooperation with its partner schools across the country, Creative Learning Systems is helping prepare students to compete in a global economy.

The program will be available to all schools in early 2009. For more information, go to [www.creativelearningsystems.com](http://www.creativelearningsystems.com).

### *About Creative Learning Systems*

Colorado-based Creative Learning Systems designs 21<sup>st</sup> century learning labs for schools. Since creating the first technology lab in a U.S. school in 1987, Creative Learning Systems has set the standard for integrating applied technology in education. For more than 20 years, the company has been in the business of enhancing the learning environment through technology and helping students develop critical 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. The company's SmartLab learning systems feature a project-based, student-centered approach that challenges and engages students of all abilities. In partnership with hundreds of schools and districts across the country, Creative Learning Systems is helping prepare students to compete in a global economy through its products and educator support. For more information, go to [www.creativelearningsystems.com](http://www.creativelearningsystems.com).

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