

GLTHS rewarded for energy- efficiency

COURTESY PHOTO

TYNGSBORO — Greater Lowell Technical High School was recognized recently by National Grid for participating in the utility's Large Commercial and Industrial Retrofit and Upstream Lighting Programs, and for Outstanding Contributions to Energy Efficiency.

Over the past four years, the school's custodial and maintenance staff, along with teachers and students from the Electrical shop, partnered with National Grid and Energy Source to install new LED lights throughout the campus.

"Over this past year, we had great success with Electrical students and staff undertaking energy initiatives to reduce costs for major cost savings for the environment and the school," Director of Plant Services Mark Byrne said.

Students collaborated with staff and industry professionals to gain valuable hands-on experience by retrofitting lighting in the tunnel, while Greater Lowell Tech's custodial and maintenance staff did much of the LED lighting installation in the classrooms, shops, hallways and gymnasium.

The four-year, school-building, energy cost-savings initiative enabled students to learn how various equipment and lighting technology are used in today's industry.

The project initially included HVAC equipment

upgrades and lighting initiatives, then culminated this year in the replacement of the old lighting system to new LED lighting, saving the school about \$200,000 since the start of the initiative four years ago.

"Projects such as this allow our students an opportunity to gain valuable experience in their field," Superintendent Joe Mastrocola said.

"Also, the efficiencies and savings from this project create funding that we can earmark to teaching and learning. This project is a win for students, teachers, parents and taxpayers."



From left, School Committee member Paul Morin (Dracut), Assistant Superintendent/Principal Jill Davis, Electrical senior Allen Yoeurng (Lowell), National Grid Regional Account Representative Grace Sawaya, Electrical seniors Alex Anderson (Dracut) and Ben Phan (Lowell), National Grid Account Representative Sean McGloin, Electrical senior Jaden Phommasinh (Lowell), Director of Plant Services Mark Byrne, Electrical seniors Justin Gullage (Dracut), Matt Ferrao (Lowell) and Koby Sawyer (Dracut), Electrical Instructor Eric Weed and Superintendent Joe Mastrocola.