



## Project Background

The Halifax Independent school was built in 2004, and designed to be a bright, welcoming environment that emphasizes the philosophy of active, experiential learning. Beginning its life as a “laboratory school” at Dalhousie University, the Halifax Independent School uses theme-based learning to help the children who attend the school learn and experience the world.

The 16,300 square foot building was designed by Lydon Lynch Architects, features ten classrooms, six co-operative workrooms, a double height music room, a library, a teaching kitchen and a lunchroom that also includes a mini-performance stage.

## Quick Facts

- **Location** — Halifax, NS
- **Nordic Model** — W300
- **Unit Capacity** — 24 tons.
- **Units Installed** — 2
- **Total System Capacity** — 48 tons.
- **Unit Type** - Water-to-water
- **Unit Functionality** — Heating only units with domestic hot water.
- **Project Size** — 16,300 sq. ft.
- **Designed By** — Lydon Lynch Architects



## Geothermal Advantage

It was important for the Halifax Independent School to set an example about environmental responsibility for their students. The result of this leadership initiative was that, when it was time to build a new structure, it incorporated as many sustainable materials and components as possible to reduce their impact on the earth for the next generation.

The building incorporates two W300 water-to-water heating units to meet the heating and domestic hot water requirements for the building. This helps maintain low operating costs and a sustainable future for the school.

Other environmental elements that the school is using include walls that are “super insulated” to R20 and a roof insulated to R40. There are also large, energy efficient windows that make use of natural light and passive solar energy to provide even more sustainable energy.

## The Result

The Halifax Independent School has completed eliminated the need for fossil fuels. They can now use the building as a way to instil in their students the importance of taking responsibility for the environment, achieving their goal of educating through example.

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