

Snake River High School

Idaho High School Dazzles with Keystone Technology

The Challenge:

At the end of the 2020-21 school year, having recently upgraded its classroom lighting, Snake River High School in Blackfoot, Idaho, decided to upgrade the gymnasium.

The plan: new flooring, new bleachers, a new sound system, and new high bay lighting. The timing: immediately.

Thad Scott, a district maintenance supervisor for the Snake River School District, had about a week and a half to line up fixtures and controls—a particular challenge in these times of product shortages and stretched supply lines.

"I called Justin at Electrical Wholesale Supply (EWS), and told him my problem," Scott recalls. "He immediately recommended Keystone, put together a package, and got it to us within a day."

PRODUCTS USED:



High Bay Fixtures with
Smartloop Wireless Controls
KT-HBLED215PS-2FB-8CSD-VDIM
KTSL-FC1-UV-KO
KTSL-WS1-B-SG



LED Flat Panels
KT-BPLED50PS-24-8CSA-VDIM
KT-BPLED40PS-22-8CSA-VDIM



LED Black Light Tubes
KT-LED12T8-48G-BL-D

The Solution:

It wasn't the first time Snake River had worked with Keystone.

When the high school of about 580 students needed to replace old-fashioned fluorescent troffers in its classrooms—lighting so poor students got headaches—the school opted for Keystone LED 2-by-2 and 2-by-4 flat panels. The Keystone troffers created a well-lit and welcoming pedagogical atmosphere.

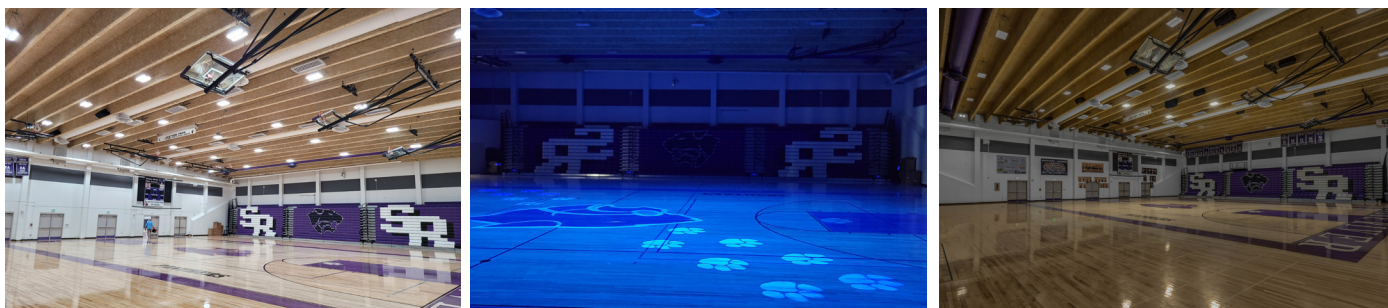
In addition, Snake River used Keystone wall packs for its outdoor lighting, replacing aging mercury vapor lamps and brightening up the exterior.

So when EWS recommended Keystone, "I knew I was in good hands," says Scott.

Keystone delivered a comprehensive solution for the gym.

In addition to more efficient LED high bay fixtures, Scott added SmartLoop, a full solution of wireless load controllers, high bay sensors, and a simple wireless keypad with an intuitive app. It's designed for simplicity while powerful enough to create multiple scenes needed for their space.

The sensors provided automatic occupancy sensing, and SmartLoop wireless controls allowed Scott to customize the lighting with event scheduling and preset scenes for Panther sports and public assemblies. The automation was a huge step up from the old-fashioned on-off toggle switches the school was using, he says. Combined with the LED illumination, it created a more dynamic space along with saving energy and money.



The lighting in Snake River's gym is customized for school events. In the center photo, a scene of black lights shows off "invisible" panther tracks.



Snake River classrooms now feature LED flat panels (right), which have provided more consistent and suitable light for the classroom environment than the patchy and harsh old fluorescents (left).

Scott says installation of the new high bay fixtures ("one-tenth the weight of the old ones," he observes) and programming SmartLoop was easy. His first-year apprentice was able to wire and install the entire gymnasium "in just a few hours," he says. And SmartLoop programming was done by the end of the day.

"Once we installed the new fixtures, we just stood in the gym for 20 minutes to get them up and running with SmartLoop," he says. "Then we spent an hour to dial in lights individually to create scenes."

SmartLoop's ability to customize lighting brought a new spirit to the gym. Individual coaches and administrators were excited to sit down with Scott and create lighting scenes that heightened drama—shutting off bleacher lights and spotlighting the ring for wrestling, darkening the entire building for school-wide video presentations, and brightening a stage for graduation. With SmartLoop, it's not just a gym. It's an event space.

The Result:

Powerful **Economic Benefits**



For the gym, the school saved 1224W—almost 20% over the old fluorescents—while retaining light quality with LED upgrades. More dramatically, SmartLoop controls continue keeping costs down by shutting lights off when nobody's present.

Reduced **Maintenance Expenses** with SMART **LOOP**

With LED dependability and SmartLoop's automated system management, there's no need to get on a scissor lift to change lighting for events.

The **Wow Factor**



Other teams are checking out the new look. "We've gotten requests from all over to see our new lighting setup and learn how we did it," says Scott.

All told, the lighting project came in on time and under budget.

"Keystone got it to us in time to demo the old system and put up the new system within a week," Scott says, noting that the lighting project beat all the other upgrades to the finish.

Reviews have been stellar. "The gym is brighter now than in the 30 years since I've been here," says Director of Activities Bob Coombs. "And it's very easy to operate. I think it's great."

The black lights that show off "invisible" panther tracks on the basketball court have been a standout addition, says Coombs.

The lighting has had a workout in its first year, but thanks to the new controls, events have gone off without a hitch.

"The gym used to look like a dungeon. Now it appears brand new," Scott says. "It's everything we could have asked for"