



Leah Hoenen photo.

With Cape Henlopen High School's Greenaction Facility certificate are (l-r) Chief Custodian Bernie Bowden Jr., District Operations Supervisor Tyrone Woodyard and Momar Inc. Regional Manager Tim Halloran.

## Cape Henlopen High School trying "green" cleaners

By Leah Hoenen  
Cape Gazette staff.

Cape Henlopen High School, under the guidance of Tim Halloran, Bernie Bowden, Jr., and Tyrone Woodyard, has taken the lead in promoting green cleaning in Delaware schools.

Tim Halloran is the regional manager for Momar Inc., an Atlanta, Ga.-based manufacturer of cleaning products. In 2007, Momar released its Greenaction product line, a set of cleaning products that meet the strict environmental standards of the EPA's Design for the Environment program. "Three thousand chemicals were submitted to the program, but only 200 were approved," Halloran said. "Momar has 12 of those." With the support of chief custodian Bernie Bowden Jr., Halloran approached District Operations Supervisor Tyrone Woodyard who agreed to try the chemicals, with Cape as the pilot school. Halloran and Bowden began to test the cleaners to determine the most effective concentrations.

So far, everyone is happy with the results, despite some initial skepticism. Bowden says that while some of his staff felt the old cleaners were just fine, "They're getting used to the new." When trying something new, Woodyard said, "You don't think you'll like it at first and then you see it's just as good or better."

Halloran admits that five or six years ago environmentally friendly chemicals were more expensive and less effective than their traditional counterparts. However, he says technology has rapidly advanced to allow for production of better green cleaners that do the job just as well as versions that may not be environmentally friendly. Bowden and his staff feel that the Momar products are doing a fine job keeping Cape clean.

All three men said they're pleased Cape high has adopted Greenaction products, and Woodyard says if the experiment proves to be cost-effective as well, he hopes to expand into other buildings.

Halloran said, "Cape is the first school in Delaware to have this program in place." This includes private schools.

The Greenaction products are biodegradable, free of dyes, non-corrosive and nonflammable. They do not contain ozone-depleting air pollutants, butyl or chlorinated solvents, ammonia or phosphates. The chemicals are designed to be mixed with cold water, saving energy required to heat water.

Cape has been given a Greenaction Facility certificate by the EPA and Momar.

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