



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report of Upper Township Elementary School (Cape May), a Sustainable Jersey for Schools bronze certified applicant.

Upper Township Elementary School (Cape May) was certified on August 11, 2019 with 185 points. Listed below is information regarding Upper Township Elementary School (Cape May)'s Sustainable Jersey for Schools efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey for Schools contact for Upper Township Elementary School (Cape May) is:

Name:	LAURIE RYAN
Title/Position:	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD OF EDUCATION
Address:	525 PERRY ROAD PETERSBURG, NJ 08270
Phone:	6096283500

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Upper Township Elementary School (Cape May) was approved for in 2019 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Board Leadership & Planning

District Sustainability Policy

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The Board of Education, under guidance of the Green Team drafted and

approved a Sustainability policy for Board approval. The first reading of the policy occurred on October 17, 2016 and the second reading and adoption occurred on November 21, 2016. The policy includes a definition of sustainability and its impact on the District. It also includes what priorities under sustainability, the District has. The policy will be posted on the District's website and review each year with all stakeholders.

PDF: [DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION](#)

Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy

Buy Renewable Energy

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Upper Township School District is committed to energy cost savings while at the same time looking for ways to demonstrate strong sustainable initiatives. In April, 2017, the District Opted into the ACES Enhanced Renewable Product program, and renewed the program in November 2018 for the time period 2018-2020. Under the program, the District will receive 40% renewable electricity supply, thereby taking steps towards environmental sustainability efforts.

PDF: [BUY RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [OPT IN FORM](#)

Onsite Renewable Generation System - Solar

30 Points

School

Program Summary: Solar power derives clean, pure energy from the sun and helps combat greenhouse gas emissions and reduces our collective dependence on fossil fuel. As part of the District's energy audit, the District was advised to install photovoltaic solar panels for power generation. The District entered into a fifteen year Power Purchase Agreement for one solar field at the middle school and one at the elementary school. On February 16, 2017, the Upper Township Elementary School received final approval to operate its solar panels. The solar field, located behind the elementary school, is used to power the elementary and primary schools. The unit is 660 kW in size and its estimated annual energy generation is 760,065 kWh. According to the calculations, the elementary system offsets 33.04% of the electricity produced by the solar system.

EXCEL: [SOLAR DATA](#)

PDF: [ONSITE RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEM - SOLAR DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [SOLAR LETTER](#)

IMAGE: [SCREEN SHOT OF WEBSITE](#)

Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency for School Facilities

50 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School District

Program Summary: In June, 2012 the Upper Township School District conducted an energy audit for all three schools in the District. Based upon the audit, the District had the potential of saving an overall 44.74% in energy usage. As a result of the audit, the District contracted with Honeywell Building Solutions to design and implement an Energy Savings Improvement Plan in 2015. Projects within the plan included lighting upgrades, domestic hot water heater replacement, building envelope modifications, solar installation, and installation of de-stratification fans. The work was completed in the 2017. Attached is the electric usage for the district from the 2016/17 school year, which was when the ESIP was completed, and the current school year. From the spreadsheet, you can see a 153.8% reduction in the overall electric consumption. The district went from using 1,826,733 Kwh to utilizing less than 700,000 Kwh per year.

WORD: [HONEYWELL ESIP CONTRACT](#)

PDF: [ESIP SAVINGS GUARANTEE REPORT](#)

PDF: [LGEA REPORT](#)

PDF: [ESIP REPORT](#)

PDF: [ESIP CASH FLOW](#)

PDF: [ENERGY REDUCTION](#)

Food & Nutrition

School Gardens

10 Points

School

Program Summary: The elementary school garden club meets periodically throughout the school year. Due to the large student interest, the club is split into two groups that meet once or twice a month. The focus of the garden club this fall was to save seeds from plants and vegetables, learn about and start a compost pile, and learn about what types of animals and insects are helpful and harmful to our gardens. When the Garden Club resumed in March, they focused their efforts on making worm farms and adding worms to the soil. They began propagating spinach, kale, lettuce, broccoli, brussel sprout, green beans and pea seeds that they will transplant into the garden beds. Additionally, the third-grade team has a plant unit including in their curriculum. The students are taught about the life cycle of the plant and then plant seeds that they later transplant to the raised beds in the garden. The UTES Garden club is also focusing on how to create gardens at home that will be successful. They have discussed and planted indigenous varieties of vegetables, herbs, and flowers to plant in the gardens.

IMAGE: [SCHOOL GARDENS DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [SCHOOL GARDENS DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [SCHOOL GARDENS DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [SCHOOL GARDENS DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [SCHOOL GARDENS DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [LIFE CYCLE UNIT](#)

Green Cleaning

Green Cleaning Supplies

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Upper Township Board of Education purchases Green Seal certified products, which shows the district's commitment to establishing a healthy working and learning environment for all staff and students. The Green Cleaning products are used exclusively in all areas of the building that are occupied by students, staff, and any members of the community. In partnership with Hillyard, the District purchases Green Seal certified products to further their commitment to sustainable practices. You can read about Hillyard's commitment to Sustainability at <https://www.hillyard.com/WhoWeAre/Pages/Our-Sustainable-Journey.aspx>

PDF: [GREEN CLEANING SUPPLIES DOCUMENTATION](#)

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Learning Environment

Student Participation in the Arts

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The Upper Township School District understands and promotes the importance of the arts in the school curriculum. The District is committed to providing all students in grades prek-8 with classes in the arts. Not only are students given the opportunity in school, but they are also given the opportunity outside of the school day to participate. The District ensures that the arts curriculum is standards-based for Kindergarten through eighth grade. A letter from the Superintendent detailing the many offerings is attached.

PDF: [STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS DOCUMENTATION](#)

Curriculum Mapping

15 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Upper Township School District has employed teachers as "curriculum facilitators" to complete curriculum mapping for grades k-8. In grades k-5, grade level mapping is utilized, while in grades 6-8 course mapping is utilized. Our curriculum includes a timeline, learning targets, and suggested materials/activities. In the middle school, it also includes a link to project-based learning. Teachers are able to use the curriculum documents as a guide to know what to teach, how long to teach it, and best practices when teaching it. An example of the fourth-grade science curriculum (Unit 1 - Energy) is attached, as well as an assessment from unit 3 of the math curriculum.

PDF: [MATH ASSESSMENT UNIT 3](#)

WORD: [UNIT 1 - ENERGY](#)

Student & Community Outreach

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required School District

Program Summary: In December, the Green Team, established by our Superintendent Mr. Vincent Palmieri, Jr., met to discuss the initiatives for the 2018/19 school year. The committee consists of our Board President, Business Administrator, Food Service Director, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor, school nurse, and three teachers. The agenda from our first meeting and subsequent meeting are attached. The purpose of the first meeting was to set goals for the year that incorporate sustainable practices in our curriculum and throughout the school. The purpose of the second meeting was to update the members on the status of our application, review upcoming sustainable events and brainstorm ideas for the future.

WORD: [GREEN TEAM DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [GREEN TEAM INITIATIVES](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM AGENDA MARCH](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM MEMBERS](#)

Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School

Program Summary: The elementary school initiative for the 2018/19 school year is an emphasis on creating and cultivating a strong mind, body, and soul which is achieved through respect for yourself and your community. This year, the school has designed several activities geared towards achieving the school's initiative. A healthy body is emphasized through the Jammin Minute each morning where the students perform a minute worth of exercises to keep their bodies active. A healthy mind is emphasized through the Amazing Race Challenge. All elementary

students and their parents were invited to an event where they would travel from room to room solving puzzles. Additionally, students who participated in the event were able to win games and take home books to read. The event was a huge success! On May 14, the staff worked hard on a health fair for the students and the community. Students, parents and community members were invited to participate in several activities (yoga, Zumba, nutrition seminars, etc.) to enhance their healthy mind, body, and soul. the students were each given a schedule and were able to visit classrooms, each with a different theme. Families learned about proper dental care, the effects of sugary drinks, making healthy food choices, and exercise (zumba, yoga, and obstacle courses).

PDF: [JAMMIN JOURNEY INVITE](#)

PDF: [THE AMAZING RACE INVITE](#)

IMAGE: [AMAZ RACE PIC](#)

IMAGE: [AMAZ RACE PIC 2](#)

IMAGE: [JAMMIN JOURNEY PIC](#)

IMAGE: [JAMMIN JOURNEY PIC](#)

Student and Staff Wellness

Programs to Promote Physical Activity

10 Points

School

Program Summary: Studies show that children spend hours every day in front of a screen (TVs, smartphones, tablets, and other devices) looking at a variety of media. Too much screen time and not enough physical activity adds to the problem of childhood obesity. For the 2018/19 school year, the staff and students of the elementary school are participating in a daily jammin minute. Parents watched a version of the 'morning announcements' at Back to School Night where they learned about the school-wide initiative to get moving each morning (a.k.a. Jammin Minute). During the morning announcements each day, one class in the building leads the school in a "Jammin Minute", where students spend one-minute modeling exercises for their classmates. The objective of the Jammin Minutes is to have all of the students follow along in the exercises and to promote physical activity. Additionally, through our continuing education program, students have the ability to sign up for Yoga for Kids and Basketball before the start of the school day. The classes have become so popular that a wait list has started. If a student is unable to pay the fee for participation, the parents may reach out to the program coordinator and be admitted to the program free of charge.

PDF: [CEUT BROCHURE](#)

IMAGE: [SCREEN SHOT OF JAMMIN MINUTE](#)

IMAGE: [SCREEN SHOT OF JAMMIN MINUTE](#)