# *PowerSave Schools* Program Application

*This document provides an overview of the program, clearly laying out responsibilities of each involved party. Eligible schools interested in participating in the program in 2019-2020 must complete, sign, and return the application form below. Applications will be accepted until all openings are filled.* ***The program starts in early October, 2019****.*

**The goals of the program are to:**

* Educate students about energy and energy efficiency through hands-on educational lessons that promote STEM learning and are aligned with Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards;
* Help schools save money on energy costs and protect the environment through cooperative, school-wide changes in behavior, operations and maintenance procedures, and by encouraging retrofits of more efficient equipment;
* Build educational and professional pathways to green jobs.
* Earn points toward certification in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools and Eco-Schools programs.

**South Jersey Gas and the Alliance to Save Energy will:**

1. Support PowerSave Schools teachers to provide high quality, inquiry-based learning opportunities for their students in the following ways:
* Conduct a **1-day training workshop** that brings together teams to orient them to
the program and to begin planning activities for their school.
* Conduct **mid-year** and **end-of-year meetings** for the PowerSave Schools teams (approximately 3 hours each) to share successes, discuss and resolve challenges, and continue planning.
* Provide a **Local Project Leader** (a dedicated Alliance staff member)who will support all participating schools through site visits and availability via telephone/video conferencing and email.
* Provide an annual **stipend of up to $500 for each school team**, which may be used by team members as personal stipends or for other appropriate educational expenditures as determined by the team. The school teams will include at least one team lead (teacher or staff member). The stipends will be split evenly if more than one team lead participates and will be broken down into two equal payments (one mid-year and one at the end of the school year).
* Provide a **Road Map Guide** and **interactive “emPowered” web portal** that includes instructional materials correlated with the **Common-Core and Next Generation Science Learning Standards**. Schools will also receive diagnostic tools to support inquiry-based learning, a system for tracking energy use data, and other resource materials.
* Support custodians and facilities staff to work with teachers and students to identify and implement changes in school facilities that will use energy more efficiently while also improving comfort levels and indoor air quality.
* Provide guidance on how to leverage PowerSave Schools Program components into **Sustainable Jersey for Schools program and Eco-Schools Pathway points toward earning certification**.
1. Facilitate communication among teachers and students in the school/district as well as with other schools that are engaged in PowerSave Schools Program activities. The Alliance’s website provides new resources, updates of activities at schools and other organizations, and access to technical tools and information.
2. Support the overall development of PowerSave Schools in the school/district by identifying additional resources and partnerships.

**The school and/or district will agree to:**

1. Identify a PowerSave School adult team at each participating school to implement activities in classrooms and throughout the school, noting their required participation in one day PowerSave Schools Professional Development Workshop in the fall, the mid-year and end-of-year meetings, and interim school-level team meetings.
2. Assemble a team of approximately 10-30 interested students to participate as the PowerSave Schools student team, who will be educated through the program’s lesson plans and activities, and will lead efforts to share energy efficiency best practices with their peers, faculty, and broader community.
3. Allow the student teams to conduct energy audits and patrol contests.
4. Coordinate with Local Project Leader to raise awareness at the school about other South Jersey Gas initiatives.
5. Return completed progress summaries to the Alliance to Save Energy Local Project Leader at the end of each semester in order to receive stipends.

**Additional ways of ensuring school success include:**

* Attend the PowerSave Schools end-of-year celebration to announce each school’s success and discuss challenges and improvement.
* Invite students to make a presentation to the school board about their accomplishments.
* Seriously consider student recommendations on energy efficient practices and retrofit opportunities, and implement those that meet the school district’s criteria for cost-effectiveness and performance.

# School Application Form

*After carefully reading through the above program description and expectations, please fill out the following information in order to request participation in the PowerSave Schools Program. Completed forms should be submitted to* ***jrottura@ase.org***

Name of district

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Name of school

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Number of students enrolled in the school

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Grade band participating in the program

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Projected Size of PowerSave team (10-30 students)

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Lead PowerSave staff name(s) and contact information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name(s)  |  |
| Phone No.  |  |
| Email address |  |

What are your objectives for the PowerSave Schools Program?

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What measures are you currently taking to save energy at your school?

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Please have the form signed by the School Principal or Business Administrator

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Signature, Title

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Date