



352 Districts

968 Schools

Participating

July Sustainability Hero



Valerie Brown, Program Coordinator, Camden County Office of Sustainability and Member, Sustainable Voorhees

The July 2020 Sustainability Hero is Valerie Brown, the program coordinator for the Camden County Office of Sustainability. In this role, Valerie manages the impressive greenhouse program and is at the forefront of many innovative sustainability demonstration programs housed at the Lakeland Eco-Complex. As the vice chair of the Voorhees Township Environmental Commission and a member of Sustainable Voorhees, Valerie was instrumental in helping the township achieve silver-level certification. See how hydroponic gardening, a tool lending library, the Voorhees Art Center and Gallery, complete streets and the Pinelands National Reserve fit into

the story on the [Sustainable Jersey Heroes page](#).

To celebrate the stories of our local leaders, we recognize a monthly Sustainability Hero. If you have a recommendation for someone on your green team, municipal staff, school staff or task force that's a sustainability hero, complete the [submission form](#).

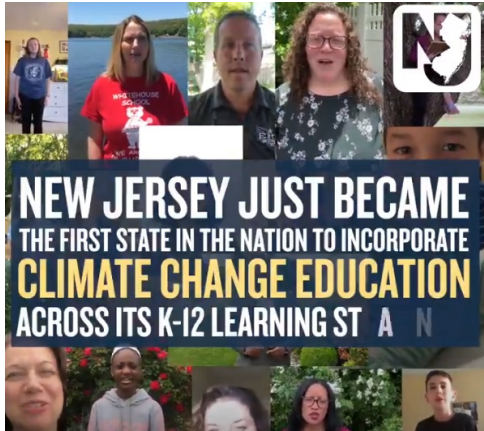
Final Applications for the 2020 Certification Cycle Are Under Review

Over 160 schools and districts submitted applications in the final round of the 2020 certification cycle. Thank you to all of the schools and districts for organizing and submitting your efforts. Reviews will be completed by the end of August.

For those who want to learn more about the application process or planning to apply for the 2021 cycle, check out our [Green Team Resources page](#), which includes our [Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet template](#) to help you keep track of your points, [Application User Guide](#) and [recorded certification webinars](#). If you have any further questions feel free to reach out to us at schools@sustainablejersey.com.



NJ Will Be First State in the Nation to Incorporate Climate Change Across Education Guidelines for K-12 Schools



First Lady Tammy Murphy announced that the New Jersey State Board of Education has adopted her initiative to make New Jersey the first state in the nation to incorporate climate change education across its K-12 learning standards. The New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) outline what is taught in New Jersey's public schools and set the foundation for school districts to craft instruction and curricula. Over the past year, the First Lady has met with the over 130 educators from across the state who have been charged with reviewing and revising the existing student learning standards, a process that occurs every five years. Since 2018, the First Lady has visited elementary, middle, and high schools across the state

that have already implemented strong climate change education and sustainability initiatives. These schools include Mount Arlington Public School, Whitehouse Elementary School, Millbridge Elementary School, George L. Catrambone School, Delran High School, Valleyview Middle School, J.V.B. Wicoff Elementary School, Egg Harbor Township High School, Alder Middle School, and Northern Burlington County Regional High School. All of these schools participate in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program. Read more [here](#). To review the new student learning standards click [here](#).

Climate Change Curriculum Resources

Last Wednesday, the New Jersey School Boards Association hosted a Facebook Live event to discuss what the climate change education guidelines will mean going forward for educators across the state. The event also presented strategies that other schools have used to incorporate climate change into their curriculum.

To view a recording of this event, click [here](#). To view a list of climate change curriculum resources, click [here](#).



Apply to be a PowerSave School!

Get free support and resources, as well as a stipend, to educate students about energy use and save money on your school's energy costs.

Sustainable Jersey is partnering with New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG), South Jersey Gas (SJG), and the Alliance to Save Energy (the Alliance) to bring the PowerSave Schools program to schools registered with Sustainable Jersey for Schools located in [NJNG](#) or [SJG](#) service territories.

PowerSave Schools engages PK-12 students in saving energy and money in their schools – and now in their homes, with “EmPowered at Home”. This new component of PowerSave Schools ensures the program’s success remotely, in-school, or in hybrid learning models. With NJNG and SJG funding, the Alliance provides the training, guidance, tools, and resources for a successful program. For more information click [here](#).

Try the Home Energy Audit with your students by going to bit.ly/empoweredhomeaudit.

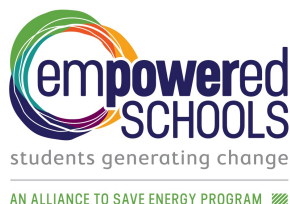
Application Information

- Spots for schools in [NJNG's service territory](#) are filling up fast, so apply today!
- The 30-school maximum for schools in SJG's service territory has been met! Additional schools in [SJG's service territory](#) that apply will be wait-listed
- [Application Form](#)

Questions about PowerSave Schools and applications should be directed to Doug Abbott at dabbott@ase.org

For questions about Sustainable Jersey for Schools and how to register, please contact Véronique Lambert at schools@sustainablejersey.com

This *PowerSave Schools* Opportunity is funded by



Upcoming Webinars

Free COVID-19 Webinar Series for Custodial Teams on School Reopening

The Healthy Green Schools & Colleges Committee has been hosting an ongoing series of webinars focused on lessons learned through the COVID-19 Pandemic to help the school facility community benefit from their experiences. To view recordings of past webinars, click [here](#).

Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Other Funding Opportunities

DEADLINE EXTENDED for NJDEP to Fund \$45 Million in Electrification of Transportation Sector

In celebration of Earth Day and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's 50th Birthday, the Department has announced that it is seeking to fund \$37.2 million worth of projects that convert diesel vehicles to electric power. This funding can be used to cover the cost of electric school buses. Funding will be prioritized in disproportionately impacted communities. For more information, and to apply, click [here](#).

[Proposal Deadline EXTENDED: Wednesday, July 22, 2020](#)

Applications for the NJDEP It Pay\$ to Plug In program for Level 1 and Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations are being accepted now and will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. To submit an application for the It Pay\$ to Plug In program, click [here](#).

These opportunities support the Sustainable Jersey for Schools [Sustainable Fleets action](#).

Green Team Resources

Staying Green During Quarantine: Resources for Remote Learning & School Building Closures

Sustainable Jersey has posted a compilation of resources on our newly-developed [Remote Learning & Building Closure Resources page](#) to assist staff, students and families across our school communities during the current crisis. We will add to and revise this list as we become aware of additional resources.

Mark Your Calendars!

Sustainable Jersey for Schools events, trainings, funding opportunities, and more!

There are no upcoming events at this time

Download Program Resources

- [Brochure](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [District Registration Instruction](#)
- [School Registration Instruction](#)

We hope you will join us to take steps to create a brighter future, one school at a time! If you have questions, email us at schools@sustainablejersey.com or visit www.SustainableJerseySchools.com

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