

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY FOR SCHOOLS

293 Districts

725 Schools

Participating



January Sustainability Hero
Kristin Wenger, Co-Director, Arts Ed NJ

Kristin Wenger is the co-director and visionary leader of <u>Arts Ed NJ</u> (formally the Arts Education Partnership), the unifying organization and central resource for arts education information, policy and advocacy in New Jersey. She is the co-chair of the Sustainable Jersey for Schools i-STEAM Task Force Subcommittee that was responsible for developing new actions for the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program and a member of the Sustainable Jersey Arts Task Force for the municipal and school program. With a reputation as a creative thinker and collaborative partner, Kristin has spent over thirty years making arts education a priority in New Jersey.

Shy about accolades, she credits her success to surrounding herself with outstanding colleagues. Kristin likes the Margaret Mead quote, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." She explained, "Sustainability means protecting the community as a whole; we need to work together to improve our future. To do this, we need to involve everyone to make a creative and positive change. When we empower people and work together like a choir, we sing with a unified voice and that is what Arts Ed NJ and Sustainable Jersey do well."

Read more about Kristin's work furthering Arts & Sustainability in New Jersey and how you can nominate a Sustainability Hero <u>here.</u>





Deadline February 9th for Spring Grant Opportunity!

PSEG Foundation is contributing \$100,000 to support the current open cycle

of the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Program.

Funds will support \$10,000 and \$2,000 grants to districts and schools for sustainability efforts that help schools gain points needed for Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification and make progress toward a sustainable future. For more information regarding the current opportunity, click here. Deadline February 9, 2018.

Arts Education Workshop Series Transforming Schools Through the Power of Arts

- March 12,2018 9am-3pm: Fostering Social-Emotional Learning in & through the Arts
- April 13, 2018 9-3pm: A Close Look at Impactful Arts Learning
- May 7, 2018 9-3pm: An Introduction to the New NJ Student Learning Standards & the National Arts Standards

All Workshops will be held at the Foundation for Educational Administration Conference Center, 12 Centre Drive, Monroe NJ. Fee: \$149 per workshop. Title I schools receive a 50% discount. Register here.

Farm to School Summit March 14, 2018 8:00-3:00pm

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture will host the second bi-annual Farm to School Summit on Wednesday, March 14 at the Robert Wood Johnson Conference Center, 3100 Quakerbridge Road, Mercerville.

The day-long event will feature key players in Farm to School from across the state who will share their work in promoting school gardens, educating students in food literacy, providing taste test education with local produce procurement and nutrition education, and sharing best practices to highlight the impact these efforts are having in the schools they serve.

Attendance is free with a light breakfast and lunch included. Registration is required to attend and is available online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JFF2SSummit. Space is limited.

For more information, contact the New Jersey Department of Agriculture Farm to School Program at 609-292-8747 or email newjerseyf2s@ag.nj.gov. Visit www.farmtoschool.nj.gov and click the Farm to School Summit banner for a full agenda and a link to register.

STEAM Tank 2017 Winners Announced; 2018 Applications Open

Sponsored and created by NJSBA and the U.S. Army, the STEAM Tank competition, which is modeled after the TV show "Shark Tank," provides New Jersey students a platform to experience real-world problem solving, allowing them to think like entrepreneurs and design and create whatever they can dream using the fields of STEAM - science, technology, engineering, the arts and math. In STEAM Tank, students create innovative products and solutions to problems, which they enter into competition. Winners at the regional level compete in the finals at NJSBA's annual Workshop, before a judging panel of entrepreneurs and business leaders. Applications for the 2018 competition are being accepted now, due by Feb. 16. Click here for more information.

President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) & Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators (PIAEE)

Nominations open through March 1st

Each year the <u>PEYA program</u> honors a wide variety of projects developed by young individuals, school classes (kindergarten through high school), summer camps, public interest groups, and youth organizations to promote environmental awareness. Winning projects in the past have covered a wide range of subject areas, including:

- restoring native habitats
- · recycling in schools and communities
- construction of nature preserves
- tree planting
- installing renewable energy projects
- creating videos, skits and newsletters that focused on environmental issues
- participating in many other creative sustainability efforts

The <u>Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators</u> recognizes outstanding kindergarten through grade 12 teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning for their students. Up to two teachers from each of EPA's 10 regions, from different states, will be selected to receive this award.

Welcome Newly Registered Schools!

Bergen County

Charles DeWolf Middle School (Old Tappan)

Richard E. Byrd Elementary School (Glen Rock)

Essex County

Orange Preparatory Academy (Orange)
Park Avenue Elementary School (Orange)

Monmouth County

Deal Elementary School

Passaic County

Memorial Elementary School (North Haledon)

Union County

Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES WITH SUSTAINABLE JERSEY FOR SCHOOLS PARTNERS

NEW JERSEY EARTH SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION & DUKE FARMS

"From Phenomenon to Assessment: teaching and learning with NGSS" February 3, 2018 8:00am-3:00pm Hillsborough, NJ

Are you comfortable with the architecture and intent of NGSS and ready to create your own NGSS congruent lessons and units? If so, this one-day workshop is for you. We will identify compelling and student friendly phenomena, build lesson sequences around them, and develop assessment tools to measure student proficiency in selected discipline core ideas, crosscutting concepts, science and engineering practices, and performance expectations. Duke Farms will provide inspiration and be our learning laboratory. Participants will receive tools and resources to facilitate the process of creating their own lessons and units.

\$25 program fee includes coffee and lunch. Register here.

THE CENTER FOR CLIMATE & ENERGY SOLUTIONS

"Green School Buses, Healthy Kids: The Road to Electrification" WEBINAR February 8, 2018 1:00pm-2:30pm

Diesel school buses have reliably transported children for decades but have also subjected them to dangerous air pollution, while also emitting greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. New zero-emission, all-electric school buses are now hitting the market, offering school districts an option that can reduce both criteria air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. This webinar will feature experts speaking about the benefits and practical considerations of all-electric school buses. Register for this free webinar here.

THE ALLIANCE FOR NJ ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS (ANJEE)

"Leadership Retreat"

February 10-11, 2018 8:00pm-3:00pm

ANJEE needs your energy, enthusiasm, intellect, and ideas to help us chart the future of this alliance. No need to be an ANJEE member; all are welcome. Registration fees start at \$15 and include meals. Overnight lodging available. Register here.

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

March 15, 9:00-3:00pm at NJSBA Headquarters, Trenton

<u>Sustainable Practices Working Session</u> (Free)

Participants will review a Sustainability Wellness Check, which will be in alignment with the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program. Board members will receive four board member academy credits and four sustainability credits for participation in this working session. NJSBA, in cooperation with the NJ Department of Education (NJDOE) and the NJ School Building and Grounds Association, is offering six Continuing Education Credits (#CE-00084) toward certification for schools facilities managers attending this program. Attendance can also contribute toward the sustainability training totals for Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification.

SCHOOL GARDEN CONFERENCE - SAVE THE DATE!

March 23, 8:15-2:30pm at Monmouth County Agriculture Building, Freehold

The mission of the School Garden Conference is to support schools that want to create, or already have, a school garden, and address their needs and issues on an individual basis. Combining gardening information with environmental education, the School Garden Conference empowers school personnel to create real world, authentic outdoor learning experiences for their students. Registration is \$25. More information here.

PEOSH/NJADP STATEWIDE INDOOR AIR QUALITY TRAINING (Free)

February 9, 2018 8am-12:30 Mahwah, NJ March 2, 2018 8am-12:30 Sicklerville, NJ April 27, 2018 8am-12:30 Neptune, NJ May 11, 2018 8am-12:30 Bridgewater, NJ View 2017-2018 Schedule here

NJADP STATEWIDE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT TRAINING (Free)

February 23, 2018 8am-12:30 Mahwah, NJ March 23, 2018 8am-12:30 Neptune, NJ April 20,2018 8am-12:30 Bridgewater, NJ May 4,2018 8am-12:30 Sicklerville, NJ View 2017-2018 Schedule here

EPA "KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION" ON DEMAND INDOOR AIR QUALITY WEBINARS Recordings available here.

Topics include: Gaining Buy-in for Optimal Ventilation, Mold Moisture & Money, Using Data to Address Asthma in Schools Healthy Schools & Healthy Students: Improving IAQ.

EPA SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT WEB ACADEMY On Demand Food Waste & Recycling Webinars available here.

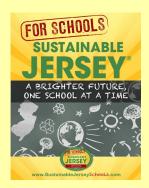
NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (NAAEE)

Free Monthly Webinar Series, live & recorded (ongoing)

Topics include: Systems Thinking, Diversity & Inclusion in Environmental Education, Telling Your Story with Web Mapping Technology, and more!
Upcoming Live Webinars in the series

Download Program Resources

- Brochure
- Fact Sheet
- District Registration Instructions
- 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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