



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report of Millbridge Elementary School (Burlington), a Sustainable Jersey for Schools bronze certified applicant.

Bronze level winner in inaugural year 2015-2016, 2018-2019, 2021-2022

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey for Schools contact for Millbridge Elementary School (Burlington) is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Millbridge Elementary School (Burlington) was approved for in 2024 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

Bronze Priority Silver Priority District

Program Summary: In 2018, the Board of Education, after attending the New Jersey Schools Boards Convention in Atlantic City, asked the Business Administrator, Derek Mead, and the Sustainability Project Coordinator, Erica DeMichele, to collaborate with Support Services Director, Mike DiGiovanni, to review the Sustainability Policies of other nearby districts, to determine what parts of the policies we were already completing. After a year and a half of the Board review and revisions, we accepted the Board motion for the policy on July 20, 2020 (see attached document, page 5, 13A). The Board of Education policies and minutes are shared with the community via the Burlington County Times each month. The BOE policy online, within the Delran Township Board of Education Policy and Regulation documents, lies within the following weblink: https://www.delranschools.org/b_o_e/policies_and_regulations Policy 7461 District Sustainability Policy is found under the first 7000 tab, go to PAGE 50 Go to the BOE Policy Page: 7000 Property: <https://www.delranschools.org/common/pages/DownloadFileByUrl.aspx?key=IMxugu5%2bY7UJ0X%2fEs2yHpeFX1HujkpjQX1S7z6h452FN%2bAgc%2bhwoTkFikmGksLOuar35Duhad28CY53re4jDVWbnDBt6vNMjq2s%2bJxLwQYgOUq8uf> This includes verbiage: Sustainability is defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It considers the interrelationship of economic, social, and environmental factors that protect and enhance present and future quality of life. The Board of Education desires to conduct its operations and make decisions with identified sustainability priorities that include at a minimum: protecting students, staff, and community from environmental harm; preparing students for the future by educating for sustainability (knowledge of concepts and practices of environmental, social, and economic responsibility and sustainability); and include an intent to preserve current and future resources. The Board believes by incorporating sustainable practices into school policies and operations it can make an immediate impact on student health, academic performance, and teacher. THE MOST UP TO DATE BOARD PRESENTATION ON THE POLICY OCCURRED ON 3/18/24: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1XN414q4Po48dgWYdd2OTgdsdqY_dKwIP1lrTXj7-xOg8/edit?usp=sharing

IMAGE: [POLICY 7461.JPG](#)

PDF: [JULY 20 2020 WORK SESSION REGULAR PUBLIC 072120 FINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [BOARD PRESENTATION 3_18_24 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY UPDATE.PDF](#)

Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy

Onsite Renewable Generation System - Solar

30 Points

School

Program Summary: As part of the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification process, we are seeking 30 points for the "Onsight Renewable Generation System-Solar" Action. The following documentation is provided to certify the installation of a solar photovoltaic system installed for Delran Township Schools. System size, including both nameplate power rating (in kilowatts), and estimated annual energy generation (in kWhrs). The total system size is 2,071 kW, with an annual generation of 3,149,150kWh. For a breakout by school, please see the attachment "PPA Calculations". Mounting type (roof, ground and canopy), and an inventory of the buildings served by the installation. Each school will be served by a separate system, as shown in the attachment "Solar Layouts". The High School and Intermediate School will involve rooftop and ground mounted systems, including a canopy over the parking areas. The Millbridge School and Middle School will be served by rooftop systems only. Utility displacement expressed as a percentage, including clear identification of the numbers used in the

displacement calculation. Please see “PPA Calculations” for the utility displacement calculations. The District-wide annual total is 85% and each school is more than 60% off the grid. Ownership Basis and Financing: Whether the system is owned outright by the school/district (and how those funds were raised), or whether a third-party ownership model was used (lease, power purchase agreement, etc...) If a third party agreement is in place, identify terms (cents per kWh, contract term, annual escalators, ect...) This project was deployed as part of an Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP), funded rooftop solar generation through a power purchase agreement (PPA). The PPA rate in 2017 was \$.0.0853/kWh, with an annual escalator of 2% for the 15-year term. This rate includes the cost of replacing 90,000 square feet of roof at the Millbridge Elementary School and Delran High School. The High School and Intermediate School added ground mounted solar through a PPA in 2022; the PPA rate was \$0.0640/kWh, with an annual escalator of 1.5% for the 15-year term. Date system was placed in use, usually taken as utility interconnection date. The systems were installed with commercial operation dates as follows: Delran High School March 15, 2017 (rooftop) & November 10, 2022 (ground mount) Delran Middle School February 1, 2017 Delran Intermediate School February 1, 2017 (rooftop) & November 10, 2022 (ground mount Millbridge Elementary School December 15, 2016 Energy consultant (if applicable) and installation contractor: Rooftop: Energy Services Company overseeing ESIP: Schneider Electric Solar Developer: SunVest Solar, Inc. PPA Financier: New Energy Equity Solar Contractor: Pennoni Associates (RWD) Ground mount: Energy Services Company consultant: Schneider Electric Solar Developer: HESP 53 SLB Holdco, LLC PPA Financier: Fifth Third Bank, National Association Solar Contractor: HESP Solar A summary of resiliency capabilities, if included: Not included A summary of any public outreach or curriculum integration done as part of the project is applicable (strongly encouraged). As part of the ESIP/PPA rooftop project, a wall mounted dashboard is installed at each of the four school buildings, with the level energy usage data and environmental impact information shared. This has promoted energy consciousness within the schools as it provides useful information to staff and students daily.

- PDF: [DELTRAN SOLAR POST PROJECT USAGE MODEL.PDF](#)
- EXCEL: [DELTRAN SUSTAINABLE JERSEY ENERGY DATA 5-31-24.XLSX](#)
- PDF: [SOLAR INSTALLATION FINAL PICTURES.PDF](#)
- PDF: [SOLAR CERTIFICATION DELTRAN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS MAY 24 2024.PDF](#)

Diversity & Equity

Breakfast After the Bell

20 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Breakfast After the Bell program began at Millbridge in September of 2012 as a trial run. The program has had such success that it continues to this day. The original implementation has not fluctuated. All students that are on free and reduced lunch, as well as students that apply for the program and pay, are entitled to a breakfast which is rolled to their classroom each morning at 8:45am. NutriServe, the food service vendor for the district, has made nourishing children with healthy, fresh and local options a mission. The March 2024 monthly voucher report shows that Millbridge had a total of 2,873 breakfasts served.

- PDF: [DELTRAN FOOD SERVICE DATA 03-2024](#)
- PDF: [DELTRAN DISTRICT BATB OUTREACH INFO](#)

Energy Efficiency

Building Efficiency Measures

30 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🥈 Silver Priority School

Program Summary: Delran Township Public Schools has had a history of successful energy projects, including lighting upgrades and lighting controls and a comprehensive energy tracking and management system. In January 2015, Delran began exploring the possibility of an Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP). Several other School Districts had success with ESIP, and Delran saw this as a way to reduce energy use and become more sustainable. The District selected an Energy Services Company in the Fall of 2015, developed a District-wide Energy Savings Plan, and is currently in the Construction phase of this project. The Energy Savings Improvement Program will allow Delran Township Public Schools to reduce energy costs by 32%, produce 80% of its electric needs through on-site solar, and save taxpayers \$5.6 million over the next 15 years. Furthermore, this project will reduce Delran’s GHG emissions by 47%. This ESIP project will directly benefit students through a kiosk and energy dashboard system, provide awareness to the community about preserving the environment, and most importantly, free up funds for Delran schools to provide the best education possible. Through a combination of energy conservation measures and on site renewable energy, each school will see it’s EUI decrease by over 40%. See the attached documentation for more information.

- PDF: [ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN](#)
- EXCEL: [EUI CALCULATOR](#)
- PDF: [CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE](#)

Food & Nutrition

School Gardens

10 Points

School

Program Summary: Our School Garden area consists of a small raised bed, a composte and a rain barrel for water collection. It is maintained by our Special Needs K- 2 classes throughout the year. This year our second grade students also are using the garden as the final piece of their Pumpkin Jack They weed, plant and harvest for their own consumption and education. We have planted strawberries, scallions, lettuce and flowers. Anything that is harvested is consumed by these students. Our School Garden Report and pictures are attached for evidence.

- WORD: [SCHOOL GARDEN HISTORICAL](#)
- WORD: [SCHOOL GARDEN PLANTING PEAS 23-24](#)
- WORD: [SCHOOL GARDEN STRAWBERRIES](#)

WORD: [SCHOOL GARDEN PUMPKIN JACK](#)
PDF: [FINAL SCHOOL GARDEN REPORT 23-24](#)

Learning Environment

Outdoor Classroom

10 Points

School


Program Summary: The Koi pond is an outdoor classroom area where students can learn about Koi fish. The Koi pond is used in the science curriculum to study habitats. Each second grade class also takes responsibility for feeding the fish and understanding their unique feeding cycle. Additionally: The space is used by second grade classrooms in their life science curriculum to study habitats. This year students are also feeding the fish and learning about their hibernation state in winter. The students feed fish weekly when appropriate. Each class goes out during specific lessons and when the weather permits. The Koi pond area has tables and seating for students to work at while observing and learning. The sustainability leaders met with our Koi Pond custodian to learn about what students need to know about feeding and how the filtration system works and what we need to keep the pond sustainable. That information then gets disseminated to our grade level teacher during our PLC and passed on to our students.

PDF: [OBSERVING INTERDEPENDENT RELATIONSHIP PICTURES USING THE KOI POND AND RAIN GARDENS.PDF](#)
PDF: [LESSON PLAN USING KOI POND AND RAIN GARDEN .PDF](#)

Student & Community Outreach

Green Team

15 Points

 Bronze Required School District

Program Summary: See the documentation for the meetings in the Annual Summaries- * The attached Board of Education approval for the Sustainability Project Managers * The letter of support from Superintendent, Dr. Lisa Della Vecchia * Delran Township Schools District Green Team Strategic Plan for the 2023-2024 * Two district level meetings with their presentations to all Green Team members * A BOE presentation from October of this year showing success of the teams and the work upcoming this year The districts Green Team website link can be found at: <https://www.delranstem.org/greenteams> Since 2009, the Green Team at Millbridge became the precursor to all work being done throughout the district. As energy savings became an important district initiative, the Business Administrator, Dr. Chris Russo established the need for continuing to develop our sustainability goals. When Dr. Brian Brotschul, Superintendent of Schools, started in the summer of 2014, he also made it clear that Delran Schools would put human resources into our programs in sustainability. As a result, he developed a Sustainability Leader position, which incorporates two stipend positions for each of the four schools. The responsibilities of the Sustainability Leader include school level duties, as well as attendance and contribution in district wide initiatives. Professional development opportunities for these leaders have begun in earnest in the 2016-2017 school year. The community outreach and curricular connections being built by these leaders with our partners in administration, support services, food service (Nutriserve), and our Energy Savings Improvement Program, with Schneider Electric, have proven to be quite successful. The iteration between our leaders at the four schools, both cooperatively and competitively (such as our Energy Savings Week program), provides excitement and a new cultural experience in Delran. Additionally, all four schools maintain their own Annual Summary pages, websites and the district provides quarterly meetings for all important parties to collaborate. Each year, Sustainability Project Managers are chosen through a submission of intent to the building principal at each of the four schools. These eight individuals are Board approved in the spring meeting (May/June) each year, for the preceding year.

IMAGE: [GREEN TEAM HOME PAGE.JPG](#)
PDF: [SUSTAINABLE JERSEY FOR SCHOOLS BRONZE LEVEL CERTIFICATION ACHIEVEMENT SHARED WITH THE COMMUNITY.PDF](#)
PDF: [6_12_23 BOARD MINUTES.PDF](#)
PDF: [9_5_23 WORK SESSION MINUTES \(1\).PDF](#)
PDF: [DISTRICT GREEN TEAM STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2024.PDF](#)
PDF: [GREEN TEAM LETTER OF SUPPORT DECEMBER 5 2023.PDF](#)

Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School

Program Summary: StoryWalk - Delran StoryWalk is a collaborative effort between the Delran Education Association, Delran Township and other local organizations including the Delran Green Team. The Grand Opening story installation was If You Plant a Seed by Kwame Alexander. The entire community was invited and seeds were given out to all to plant. This year's story installation will be about the importance of pollinators. Article website below: <https://thesunpapers.com/2023/06/19/gets-kids-reading/> STEM Fair - Each year the town of Delran holds an annual STEM fair located at the Delran High School. The Green Team at Millbridge Elementary school took part in the activities. During the school year the students learned the importance of composting. Our students researched earthworms and how worms help to decompose food scraps and other materials to make compost that was used to nourish our school garden. At the STEM fair the students brought their Earthworm Research and real live worms to help educate the community on the importance of composting and how community members can do this in their own home. Students made individual posters and collectively, a slide show, that they presented to the fair participants. The students also grew seedlings and donated them to the community at the STEM fair. Pictures have been uploaded as evidence.

PDF: [BOE STORYWALK PRESENTATION.PDF](#)
PDF: [STORYWALK FLYER WHITE FINAL.PDF](#)
PDF: [STORYWALK.PDF](#)
PDF: [WORM RESEARCH PRESENTATION](#)
WORD: [STEM FAIR COMMUNITY OUTREACH - WORMS AND SEEDLINGS](#)
WORD: [STEM FAIR FLIER](#)

Student Learning

Education for Sustainability 2nd Grade

5 Points

School

Program Summary: 2nd Grade Life Science is explored based on Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems which follows NJSL standard LS2.A, which is completed during the last month of school. Students plan and conduct an investigation to determine if plants need sunlight and water to grow, develop a simple model that mimics the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants, make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats, develop a simple sketch, drawing or physical model to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem and act as wildlife biologists in observing and recording the phenomena they see in a habitat like the rain gardens at their school. One of the lessons, Field Biologist- Science Career, is meant to have students connect the concepts of wildlife and habitat conservation with the work of a field biologist. The New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards Career Ready Practices, gives the students time to critically think in teams and communicate their findings to others. The Bee Pollination lesson is part of the 2nd Grade program. This poster creation project happened both in 2nd grade science class as well as in their library time. The full compendium of lessons can be found here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1w2VYijhSlib8s0Qq8tVz5duMXBc2gpcF_lC5PIKS5A/edit?usp=sharing Rubric for student learning is on Page 5 of this document: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1w2VYijhSlib8s0Qq8tVz5duMXBc2gpcF_lC5PIKS5A/edit?usp=sharing Evidence of student learning can be seen in the following images from posted work this year: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13Vk9RrdELpELQsgKfRoxFejM3Ojy1l7K?usp=drive_link STEM Fair, some of the 2nd grade students and Green Team members continue to share their knowledge... see the video here: <https://www.delranstem.org/post/2024-stem-fair>

PDF: [SCIENCE NOTEBOOK.PDF](#)

PDF: [2ND GRADE LESSONS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BEES AS POLLINATORS.PDF](#)

PDF: [2ND GRADE EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY LESSON PLAN.PDF](#)

Waste Reduction & Recycling

Materials Reuse

10 Points

School

Program Summary: Delran Green Team Collaboration for Halloween Costumes Collection This message was sent to all families K-12 in each broadcast newsletter and with signage around town paid for by the Delran Green Team, the donation requests included. All signage was translated into languages for our multilingual families to understand, by our in staff translators from the schools! For Donations: What can you donate? Halloween costumes, specially for bigger kids, teens, and adult sizes. Clothing that can be used to create costumes (like ripped clothes that can become a zombie, scarecrow or other ideas). Donation drop offs: From Delran staff members can be dropped off to the main offices at Millbridge, DIS or DMS From Delran community members, drop off at the municipal building starting September 25, 2023. For Free Shopping: Then, there was a costume shop is at Delran Community Park on October 7, 2023 from 10am-1pm. The goal of the Municipal and School team was to have approximately 20 families attend. In actuality, the event on 10/7/2023 saved over 100 pounds of costumes going into landfills, with over 80 families in attendance. 60 costumes were repurposed, totalling a value of roughly \$3,500 (see the attached Halloween Costume Shop pdf). This news is publicized on the delranstem.org website from the District Green Team Meeting #2 Presentation 12/4/23 Slide 9: <https://www.delranstem.org/greenteams>

PDF: [DONATE OR SHOP AT THE 5TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN COSTUME SHOP.PDF](#)

PDF: [HALLOWEEN COSTUME SHOP_20231026_160718_0000 \(1\).PDF](#)

IMAGE: [DECEMBER GREEN TEAM PRESENTATION.JPG](#)

Recycling Non-Mandated Materials

5 Points

School

Program Summary: Terracycle Halloween Candy - All kids love Halloween and candy so what better way to help keep our Earth clean than to recycle all those wrappers!! Every year, for the last several, The Millbridge Green Team uses a candy wrapper box ordered from Terracycle. For the entire month of November the students save up all their candy/snack bags. Each morning when the students come into school they empty their wrappers into the bin. This year we recycled 5.2 pounds of candy/snack wrappers! At the end of the month we return the box back to Terracycle. The wrappers are then recycled into outdoor furniture, indoor furniture and gardening equipment instead of heading to the landfill. We have provided evidence of our past collections below.

PDF: [CANDY WRAPPER RECYCLING FLYER.PDF](#)

PDF: [CANDY WRAPPER WEIGHT DOCUMENTATION.PDF](#)

PDF: [FILLING TERRACYCLE BOX.PDF](#)

PDF: [CANDY WRAPPER EVIDENCE FROM PAST YEARS 2021 AND 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [NON-MANDATED RECYCLING SUBMISSION TEMPLATE](#)