



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report of Long Branch High School (Monmouth), a Sustainable Jersey for Schools silver certified applicant.

Long Branch High School (Monmouth) was certified on August 15, 2025 with 470 points. Listed below is information regarding Long Branch High School (Monmouth)'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 Long Branch High School (Monmouth) is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Long Branch High School (Monmouth) was approved for in 2025 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: The board of education recognizes that responsible environmental stewardship is an integral part of its mission in ensuring that schools are well run. The board supports conservation and sustainable planning and operations, and shall endeavor to implement green initiatives in all day-to-day district operations. Sustainability is defined as meeting the needs of the present while not compromising the future. The board recognizes that sustainability through the adoption of green initiatives in all day-to-day district operations will only succeed with the cooperation and support of the board, the students, the parents/guardians and the community. The district shall endeavor to engage all members of the school community in the conservation and green initiatives of the district. The board directs the chief school administrator or his or her designee(s) to oversee the districts programs for conservation and green initiative including but not limited energy efficient practices, recycling, sustainable programs and business practices within the district, environmental assessments, green construction within school facilities, and education and training programs for students, staff and the community.

PDF: [SUSTAINABILITY POLICY ON WEBSITE.PDF](#)

PDF: [DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD JANUARY 2018 - REVISED JUNE 2022.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY SHARED WITH DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY VIA SOCIAL MEDIA.PNG](#)

PDF: [PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING POLICY GOALS OUTREACH.PDF](#)

Professional Development for Sustainability

20 Points

🥉 Bronze Priority 🥈 Silver Priority School District

Program Summary: During the 2023-2025 school year, district employees participated in professional development focused on sustainability and climate change education, advancing the district's commitment to environmental responsibility. Administrators, board members, and teachers engaged in workshops like Sustainability Award & Food Waste Learning Labs and Ready, Set, Go! Teaching Climate Change to K-5 Students, equipping them to integrate climate change education into their classrooms. The district also participated in the New Jersey Sustainability Summit, which offered valuable insights on energy reduction, health equity, and community planning,

helping district leaders implement sustainable practices across school facilities. Workshops such as Connecting Climate Change to Curriculum and STEM and Solutions enabled educators to integrate climate change into curricula through problem-based learning, fostering student engagement with real-world environmental issues. Additionally, the district's Green Team and partnerships with organizations like Sustainable Jersey for Schools supported waste reduction and energy conservation across school operations. The Green Team Luncheon provided a platform to share sustainability initiatives, including food waste reduction efforts in school cafeterias. By attending these workshops, district employees contributed to creating an environmentally conscious school community, empowering students to take action on climate issues. These ongoing efforts will continue to support the district's sustainability goals and serve as a model for other educational institutions.

PDF: [PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY - 2023-2025 - SHEET1.PDF](#)

Green Enhancement of District Strategic Plans

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public Schools strive to promote a culture of Sustainability throughout the entire district. As such, we have updated our strategic plan to reflect the skill set and tools our students will need to become active contributing members in communities where climate change is at the forefront of global problems that must be addressed and solved. These skill sets include • Social & Emotional Learning • Programs, Pathways & Proficiency • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) • Communication • Student Life | Life Skills • Portrait of a Graduate In addition the mission and vision of the district have been updated to reflect our commitment in celebrating diversity and embracing uniqueness, all while the LBPS family strives to educate, develop and support every student to become successful community members in a rapidly changing world. LBPS seeks to empower our students socially, emotionally, and academically for life and career in an inclusive, dynamic and innovative learning environment from PreK thru 12th grade and beyond. Strategic Plan location on the district Website: <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/Domain/4> Video Supporting the adoption of the Strategic Plan: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J4QiOUgc-HhBGtyBo39aWMCpHXBWmELG/view?ts=610150d0>

PDF: [5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

PDF: [BOARD PRESENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

School Community Asset Mapping

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public Schools District with the help of students, teachers, administrators, and community partners have continued to develop a community asset map to identify community places that make our city a great place to live, work and play. The asset map was shared with the community and staff via social media, e-mail and posted on the district website under the district's sustainability tab. Students will continue to grow and develop this map to include additional places of interest in our community. Access our map here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/Long+branch+school+district+community+asset+map/@40.2935587,-74.019636,14z/data=!3m1!4b1>

IMAGE: [SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET PUBLICITY](#)

PDF: [SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING DOCUMENTATION](#)

Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy

Buy Renewable Energy

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools are returning participants in the ACES consortium of purchasing renewable energy is such a positive action for the school district. First, it is a more efficient way to utilize the public school purchasing power for electricity which for a small up-charge per kWh allows the school to reduce its carbon footprint by not using fossil fuel generated electricity and we are expected to have as much as 40% renewable energy provided to us. This is another example of how the NJ Sustainable for Schools is making a difference.

PDF: [RENEWABLE ENERGY OPT-IN FORM](#)

PDF: [LETTER FROM ACES DETAILING THE CONTENTS OF THE SCES ELECTRICITY CONTRACT](#)

Onsite Renewable Generation System - Geothermal

10 Points

School

Program Summary: The Geothermal system at the Long Branch High Schools was installed at the time the HS was built by the NJSDA in 2005. The wells are located under the parking areas and ball fields adjacent to the building. The system has been fully operational since 2007 when we opened the school. GEOTHERMAL INFORMATION Number of Wells 256 Well Depth 500 ft. ea.; (128,000 ft. tot.) Number of Well Circuits - 32 Number of Wells per Circuit 8 Geothermal Pipe Size Well Size (in.) 1-1/4" Branch Size (in.) 3";2" S & R Main Size (in.) 12" Manifold Size (in.) 12" Geothermal Pipe Material Well Pipe: SDR 11 Polyethylene Branch Pipe: SDR 11 Polyethylene S & R Main Pipe: SDR 11 Polyethylene Manifold Pipe SDR 17 Polyethylene Insulation (Above Grade&in Pit) 3/4" Rubatex R-180-FS Fluid Information Fluid: Environol 2000 (23%) By Wt.) Flow (GPM): 2850 Well Field Press. Drop (ft. HD): Approximately 60 Maximum Entering Water Temp. 100°F Insulation (Above Grade&in Pit) 3/4" Rubatex R-180-FS Minimum Entering Water Temp. 30°

PDF: [HS DRAWING OF GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM SD-G1 1.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [IMAGE0000011.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [IMAGE0000021.JPG](#)

PDF: [HIGH SCHOOL GEOTHERMAL LETTER AND MAINTENANCE REPORTS](#)

Onsite Renewable Generation System - Solar

30 Points

School

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools installed a canopy & fix-tilt, roof mounted 965.38 kWDC photovoltaic (solar) energy generation system, operating exclusively as a Net Metering Photovoltaic Solar Electric Facility (SEF). The rooftop Solar Electric Facility is comprised of one hundred and eighty-two (182) strings each with thirteen (13) Motech MTPVp-235-MSC poly-crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules in series with a maximum nominal voltage of 600 VDC. These strings are fed through eight (8) combiner boxes with 200 amp, 600 volt integrated DC disconnects and to one (1) PVPowered 260kW, two (2) 100 kW and two (2) 35kW three-phase 480 VAC inverters. The Canopy Solar Electric Facility is comprised of one hundred and thirty-three (13) strings each with thirteen (13) Motech MTPVp-235-MSC poly-crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules in series with a maximum nominal voltage of 600 VDC. These strings are fed through twelve (12) combiner boxes with 200 amp, 600 volt integrated DC disconnects and to one (1) PVPowered 260 kW and one (1) 100 kW three-phase 480 VAC inverters. There are seven (7) PVPowered inverter systems. Each inverter system consists of an Inverter Control Switch, a DC Disconnect, a PVPowered inverter, and an AC Disconnect. The three-phase AC output from each inverter is fed through three-phase 480 VAC isolation transformer within the inverter, and the output is connected to the line side of an existing Customer distribution panel via two (2) 400 amp 480 volt AC breakers, three (3) 150 amp 480 volt AC breakers and two (2) 60 amp 480 volt AC breakers through one (1) 1600 amp 480 volt AC Maine Breaker. Power from this new metering system is connected on the Customer side of a JCP&L revenue grade electric meter. The annual percentage of the school building's energy use offset by solar was 35%.

EXCEL: [HS 2021.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [08-28-2020 LONGBRANCH BOE _ FINAL AUDIT REPORT SREC ADN SOLAR COLLECTION.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [HS GYM ROOF.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [HS ROOF W SOLAR.JPG](#)

PDF: [HS SOLAR LETTER 2021](#)

IMAGE: [HS2 SOLAR SMALL.JPG](#)

Digital Learning Leadership

District Commitment to Digital Learning

15 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

Program Summary: Long Branch School District has a very strong commitment to Digital Learning. The district has a diverse team of stakeholders that makes up their Executive Committee that meets through the year. We live in a digital society, all manner of preparation for the world, work and life is our priority. Long Branch Public Schools is committed to providing all of the tools and opportunities to maximize student and educator success. This includes equitable access for our diverse population to ensure academic student growth through their learning experiences. These digital learning experiences also offer social emotional learning strategies that support students, teachers and parents. Our goal is to ensure that students have access to the digital devices and tools in order to be successful both in school and at home. In addition our policies support our commitment to digital learning. Use of Technology:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/101n91eznzmyOB6fpj6FGrm9eN8j6UZS/view?usp=sharing> Provided Technology Devices to Staff Members:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L_8bQwkr4xzDZTE6Me7TSPOryNN8IUvB/view?usp=sharing Provided Technology Devices to Pupils:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u3S9g_G4cA1YP6qiFljFQwYfOCVeRp7D/view?usp=sharing

PDF: [COMMITMENT TO DIGITAL LEARNING SUBMISSION FORM](#)

PDF: [TECHNOLOGY PLAN](#)

PDF: [TECHNOLOGY BUDGET 2025](#)

PDF: [DISTRICT COMMITMENT TO DIGITAL LEARNING EVIDENCE](#)

Equitable Access to Digital Learning

15 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools (LBPS) is committed to ensuring equitable access to technology and digital learning for all students. Following districtwide technology surveys conducted during the 2020–2021 school year, we identified critical gaps in internet access and device availability. In response, we implemented a 1:1 laptop program for all middle and high school students and partnered with T-Mobile to provide Wi-Fi hotspots to families without home internet. To further close access gaps, we held secure device distribution events and partnered with HP to provide laptops to high school seniors. We also developed, and continue to update, the Long Branch Community Asset Map, (<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?hl=en&mid=1K-uxvFbzAQV-RMbQGETPbG3z3yD4A&ll=40.2941715146075%2C-73.9982401&z=13>) which identifies free public Wi-Fi locations for students and families. Our implementation process includes continuous monitoring and reassessment through annual surveys and data reviews. In spring 2025, LBPS launched a Technology Accessibility & School Communication Survey to gather updated information on device access, internet reliability, and digital literacy. To ensure equitable participation, we implemented a multilingual survey add-on that allows users to select their preferred language—currently available in English, Portuguese, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Chinese. All future surveys will use this technology to ensure all families are included. LBPS works closely with families to support student progress and ensure digital resources meet diverse learning needs, including accommodations for students with disabilities. The data we collect informs our decision-making and is used to revise both our Digital Learning Vision and District Communications Plan annually (attached document). We continue to expand meaningful community partnerships that support equitable digital learning. These include growing collaborations with Monmouth University, Brookdale Community College, the Long Branch Chamber of Commerce, Literacy NJ, and Monmouth Medical Center, which provide resources, outreach, and support to our students and families. DEI website with partnership descriptions: <https://sites.google.com/longbranch.k12.nj.us/office-of-dei/community-partnerships?authuser=0>. Attached you will find this year's survey to students and parents as well as our annual report, an analysis of both this survey and our staff survey.

PDF: [LBPS - TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY & SCHOOL COMMUNICATION SURVEY - PARENT - LANGUAGE DROP DOWN - GOOGLE FORMS.PDF](#)

PDF: [DIGITAL LEARNING VISION & DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS PLAN - 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT - 2025 \(1\).PDF](#)

Community Engagement *Retires 8/31/2026*

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public Schools (LBPS) Vision Statement focuses on empowering every learner through technology and connection in an inclusive, innovative environment from PreK through 12th grade. Committed to celebrating diversity and preparing students for a rapidly changing world, LBPS integrates digital learning and communication to support student success, educator leadership, and family engagement. Digital Learning Vision: LBPS ensures equitable access to technology via a 1:1 Chromebook initiative, robust classroom technology, and high-speed internet infrastructure. The district leverages digital tools like Google Workspace, i-Ready, and Adobe Express to provide personalized, data-driven instruction and future-ready skills development in coding, media production, and digital storytelling. Adaptive tools and multilingual supports address diverse learner needs, while ongoing professional development sustains staff expertise in digital pedagogy. Communications Plan: The district's Communications Plan was developed through a collaborative, stakeholder-informed process aligned with the digital learning vision. This included gathering input from families, students, and staff via surveys to ensure the plan fosters transparent, timely, and inclusive communication. Core strategies focus on informing, engaging, and unifying the community through multilingual, multi-platform communication tools—such as websites, social media, and emergency alerts via email or our Outreach system Messages XR. Description of Implementation: To ensure continued relevance and effectiveness, LBPS administers an annual technology and communication survey to families, students, and staff. Feedback from these surveys informs the yearly revision of the Communications Plan. Updates are made collaboratively with the Technology Department, the Educational Technology Specialist, and the Office of Sustainability. This process supports ongoing alignment with evolving digital tools, equity initiatives, and stakeholder needs. Dedicated staff training in digital engagement and translation tools further enhances the plan's implementation. In summary, LBPS's integrated approach cultivates a connected, innovative learning community where technology supports access, equity, and engagement, preparing all students for future success. It can also be found on our district website: <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/Domain/87> Our annual technology and communication report is attached with gathered data from both staff and parents.

PDF: [COMMUNICATIONS OVERVIEW - 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [BLACKBOARD CONNECT USAGE MARCH 2025-6 MONTHS.PDF](#)

POWERPOINT: [LBPS - SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS - INSTAGRAM AND X 2025.PPTX](#)

PDF: [DIGITAL LEARNING VISION & DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS PLAN - 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT - 2025 \(1\).PDF](#)

Digital Learning Practices

Authentic Application of Digital Learning Tools and Content

15 Points

School

Program Summary: Long Branch High School is committed to creating authentic learning opportunities for students by integrating digital tools and strategies that foster critical thinking, creativity, and real-world application. Through revised curricula, project-based learning, extracurricular activities, and continuous teacher training, the school aims to prepare students for success in an increasingly digital and interconnected world. Our Educational Technology Specialists provide ongoing professional development for teachers to learn how to effectively integrate digital tools into their teaching. Workshops and training will focus on how to design lessons that encourage authentic, project-based learning and enhance student engagement with real-world problems. Teachers utilize various online platforms and applications including Kahoot!, Quizizz, and Pear Deck as well as many others for formative assessments and classroom lessons, ensuring

interactive and engaging reviews of concepts in subjects like history, math, and science. Some classrooms also use Adobe Express and Canva to create digital stories, presentations, and infographics, encouraging creativity and communication skills. Our Science Department also partakes in several "Digital Field Trips". Partnering with the Liberty Science center, students have the opportunity to watch a live neurosurgery.

PDF: [COMMITMENT TO DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP- 2024-2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [HIGH SCHOOL -AUTHENTIC APPLICATION OF DIGITAL LEARNING TOOLS AND CONTENT.PDF](#)

PDF: [AUTHENTIC APPLICATIONS SUBMISSION FORM -LBHS 2025.DOCX.PDF](#)

Digital Citizenship

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools emphasizes the importance of Digital Citizenship as part of our technology integration. We use the Common Sense Media curriculum and ISTE standards to guide both students and educators in making responsible online choices and fostering positive digital footprints. At the middle school this year, we purchased a digital citizenship/information literacy curriculum, which we are in the midst of implementing now. Our Media and EdTech specialists work together to deliver digital citizenship lessons for students in grades K-12. Their dedicated website can be found Here: <https://lbps.my.canva.site/lolexedtechs>. These lessons are regularly updated on our district's EdTech site, and virtual professional development (PD) opportunities are provided for staff, including training on becoming Common Sense Educators for Media Specialists. Digital citizenship concepts are embedded across all subjects, starting in elementary grades. Students learn to balance online and offline activities, use technology responsibly, and understand how to research and cite information correctly. In high school, students benefit from guest speaker sessions on social media, online reputation, and cybersecurity. To further support online safety, our district uses the GoGuardian application to monitor student activity and ensure a secure digital learning environment. Our district is committed to equipping both students and staff with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the digital world responsibly and securely. We continue to review and update our digital citizenship practices to ensure a positive online experience for all.

PDF: [2360 - USE OF TECHNOLOGY.PDF](#)

PDF: [5512.02 - CYBER-BULLYING.PDF](#)

PDF: [COMMITMENT TO DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP- 2024-2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP OCT. 14 PD SESSION \(RESPONSES\) - FORM RESPONSES 1.PDF](#)

PDF: [4. ANALYZING ONLINE INFORMATION, PART 1 LESSON PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [14. WHO'S WATCHING YOU LESSON PLAN .PDF](#)

Digital Technology Access

Data Safety and Security Policy

10 Points

District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools maintains several committees in key areas which include board members, administrators and specifically identified personnel. (Note: In this case, as it pertains to Data Safety and Security, the Technology Team is involved in identifying and explaining pertinent aspects.) To properly address policy, the Governance Committee meets quarterly to write, remove and/or revise the policies for the district. Once a structure has been created and agreed upon, drafts are released to the Leadership Team for further input and review. Once the verbiage is decided upon, the policy is presented to the district's attorneys for approval. Upon completion, the policy is adopted into board policy at a board meeting and presented to the staff. Long Branch Public Schools continues to have several key factors in place to assure our digital information is protected... The district has 2 firewalls in place that assure all internal data is protected from outside sources. The district has 2 Proxy Filters in place that assure all staff and students are filtered while browsing the Internet in accordance with our district policy. The district installs and maintains a full Enterprise Endpoint Solution for Antivirus on all servers and computers. The district maintains extensive network and user policies to assure users only have access to data that they are permitted to see. The district maintains strict password policies that have a set length/strength with a time period for password changes. If LBPS uses a vendor to house data, i.e. a cloud-based program for student information, a formal review and questionnaire is provided to assure the company properly protects our data and follows guidelines to keep it private. Additionally, we continue to provide opportunities for leadership and staff to participate in data safety/security simulations. Attached is a simulation that we modified and used again from <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/> to make relevant to various offices and departments. Comprehensive Technology Policies and Regulations remain the same.

PDF: [COMPREHENSIVE TECHNOLOGY POLICIES AND REGULATIONS.PDF](#)

PDF: [DATA SECURITY EVIDENCE TECHNOLOGY PAGE.PDF](#)

PDF: [DATA SECURITY SCREEN SHOTS](#)

PDF: [DATA SECURITY SIMULATION](#)

PDF: [DATA SECURITY EVIDENCE TECHNOLOGY PAGE](#)

Digital Device Life Cycle Management

10 Points

District

Program Summary: As more and more technology entered into schools, Long Branch Public Schools identified a need for properly managing not only in production technology but end-of-life / end-of-usability technology as well. As such, the Technology Team deployed software to track our equipment and worked closely with the Business Department to develop specific criteria that would trigger disposal of equipment that was no longer in use. Using these criteria as our guiding factor, equipment is evaluated regularly and discussed bi-weekly at Operations Meetings with administration as well as quarterly with the Operations Committee which has board members included. Inventory is of utmost importance. Keeping track of, and being able to manage software, laptops, tablets, Chromebooks, etc. is a huge priority to assure we can properly manage and maintain all of our equipment. Using a suite that PDQ offers, we currently run PDQ Inventory and PDQ Deploy. These 2 pieces of software allow for us to both track our networked computers, laptops etc. as well as deploy software to them through pushes & schedules on an individual and/or mass basis. It also allows us to pull detailed information on any device. Again, thinking progressively and adapting to the rigorous demands of the Technology field, Long Branch Public Schools has created a position for an Inventory Technician. While having a full technical skillset with the ability to perform daily break/fix duties, this technician has been in the field and understands the needs of our department. Pairing him with an office area inside of Tech center has allowed us to use this amazing resource to gather quotes and keep track of inventory such as projector bulbs, solid state drives, network wires, etc. (things that are not connected to the network). We have a full suite which houses most of our employees (the network team has a separate office a few doors down) that has personal space, locked storage, shelving units and filing cabinets. The person in this position keeps the storage areas clean and organized so our techs can quickly and efficiently find anything that is needed. Designated areas are always labeled and stocked appropriately. The resources are reviewed by the inventory technician on a daily basis and he contacts various vendors to supply the Head of Technical Services with the lowest quotes. The quotes are then reviewed and submitted to the Technology Director with written explanations for purchasing.

IMAGE: [CHROMEUPDATE.JPG](#)

PDF: [DECOMMISSIONING & RECYCLING PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SOLUTION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [PDQINVEN.JPG](#)

Infrastructure

10 Points

District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools follows a comprehensive and collaborative process to evaluate network hardware and services, ensuring all infrastructure components meet privacy, curricular, and instructional needs. The process prioritizes interoperability with existing systems and long-term financial sustainability, aligning with the district's commitment to equitable, future-ready digital learning. Our network team, consisting of a Network Administrator and Systems Administrator with over 40 years of combined experience and certifications including CCNP and MCSE, leads this effort. They conduct thorough research, attend professional seminars, and secure demo equipment whenever possible to gain hands-on experience. Sites that have deployed the technologies are consulted, and following evaluation, recommendations are submitted to the District Technology Director. From there, proposals move to the Operations and Management Committee—composed of administrators and Board members—for open discussion on cost, reliability, and effectiveness. Final approvals are only given after consensus is reached to ensure responsible and informed decision-making. Recent examples include a districtwide replacement of 450 wireless access points in FY2025 using E-Rate funding, equipping the district with the latest wireless technology. For FY2026, we are currently evaluating UPS replacements for our MDFs and IDF's to further strengthen network reliability. In addition to evaluating hardware, LBPS uses stakeholder survey data, building-level audits, and collaboration with instructional leadership to ensure that infrastructure supports both in-person and remote learners. The process includes reviewing bandwidth usage trends, verifying that disaster recovery plans are sufficient, and ensuring compliance with regulations like COPPA, HIPAA, and FERPA. Network viability and financial sustainability are determined by technology leadership, while administration reviews ongoing fiscal obligations. As a large district operating at an enterprise level, security, research-based planning, and collaboration are central to maintaining a network that fully supports instructional and operational excellence.

PDF: [COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT - 2025 \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [VETTING NETWORK EQUIPMENT](#)

PDF: [LBPS - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY SURVEY - 2025 - GOOGLE FORMS.PDF](#)

PDF: [DISASTER RECOVER - NIST FRAMEWORK](#)

Support for Digital Teaching and Learning

20 Points

District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools has an established formal process for evaluating and selecting digital learning devices, tools, software, and applications. This process is managed by our Technology Department, led by Technology Director Christopher A. Dringus, along with our educational technology specialists, Lois Alston and Alex Isaacs, and supported by the Social and Environmental Sustainability Officer. Depending on the specific program, application, or device, selected teachers participate in pilot testing to provide valuable feedback before final adoption. Here you can find our Ed Techs website including tutorials and support services for district software and applications: <https://lbsps.my.canva.site/lolexedtechs>. You can also contact them to set up training or tutorials. Each Spring, we distribute a comprehensive classroom technology survey to all district staff to gather input on current digital resource needs. In addition, we review our existing inventory of digital devices, tools, software, and applications to assess whether they adequately support our digital learning goals. Attached is a copy of this year's survey. Based on this analysis and survey feedback, we evaluate and recommend any necessary additions or replacements to ensure our technology remains effective and aligned with instructional and administrative needs for the upcoming school year. The results for this survey as well as our student/parents survey can be found on our annual report (attached). The district continues to use the Trouble Trak system, which is integrated into K-12 email, as a user-friendly tool that allows staff to easily report technical issues directly from their school email accounts. By clicking a built-in link or using a simple form,

users can quickly submit help requests, which are automatically logged and routed to the appropriate IT support team. This streamlined process helps schools resolve tech problems more efficiently, improving overall system reliability and minimizing classroom disruptions. Each school building is also supported by one or two Technical and Distance Learning Advisors who assist staff and students with technology needs and issues on site. These advisors are an integral part of the Trouble Trak system and are assigned building-level requests, ensuring timely, localized support and enhancing the district's overall digital learning infrastructure. Parents, staff, and community members can also access information and tutorials on the district's technology website (click on the left to go through all files) found here: <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/Page/19385>.

PDF: [LBPS - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY SURVEY - 2025 - GOOGLE FORMS.PDF](#)

PDF: [SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT.PDF](#)

PDF: [SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL TEACHING AND LEARNING LINKS - 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT - 2025 \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [DIGITAL LEARNING VISION & DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS PLAN - 2025.PDF](#)

Diversity & Equity

Accessible Communications

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public School District is committed to providing on-going communication to both our schools and the local community. It is our priority to provide all communications based on our dynamic demographics by using a variety of methods and ALWAYS in multiple languages (English, Spanish, and Portuguese). Throughout the school year, we invite families and community members to attend a variety of extra-curricular, sports, and academic events. We also use many platforms to communicate important information to our school community. Our district webpage has the option for visitors to view its contents in their native language. We also provide district-level video updates to families in our community, these video updates are posted on YouTube, Instagram, and X. Our YouTube channel has over 2,000 subscribers, this platform allows us to upload a transcript for each video update - - providing parents with Spanish and Portuguese captions. We also have created a short tutorial showing parents how to enable video captions. Emails, digital flyers, phone calls, auto-dial calls through Blackboard connect, Parent notifications via Genesis Parent Portal and applications such as, Class Dojo or Remind, are also provided in all three languages. For our surveys, we have now adopted a form which translates up to 8 languages selected by the user. The district has several policies helping to ensure effective communication including # 9200 Parent communication and #5420 Reporting of pupil progress. With every student registration packet, we include a guide to help parents navigate the various levels of our school system. This Spring, we also conducted a parent survey regarding technology and communication within the district. Both the survey and our annual technology and communication report are both attached.

PDF: [5420 - REPORTING PUPIL PROGRESS \(M\).PDF](#)

PDF: [9200 - COOPERATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOL.PDF](#)

PDF: [SAMPLE LETTER SENT THROUGH PARENT PORTAL - 3 LANGUAGES.PDF](#)

PDF: [LBPS - TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY & SCHOOL COMMUNICATION SURVEY - PARENT - LANGUAGE DROP DOWN - GOOGLE FORMS.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [SAMPLE POSTING OF EVENTS - 3 LANGUAGES.PNG](#)

PDF: [COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT - 2025 \(1\).PDF](#)

Diversity on District Task Forces & Committees

10 Points

District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools in New Jersey emphasize Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) through various initiatives and programs. The district established the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, which integrates DEI principles into all aspects of education, focusing on creating an inclusive environment for both students and staff. More information about the office can be found on their Google Sites page: <https://sites.google.com/longbranch.k12.nj.us/office-of-dei/home>. Long Branch also upholds an Affirmative Action policy that promotes the acceptance and equitable treatment of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The policy encourages inclusivity regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, and other factors. Details are available on the district's Board of Education page: <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/Page/154>. The Buddy & Me Program pairs students across different grade levels to foster mentorship and community. This initiative has been successful in promoting empathy and understanding among students from diverse backgrounds. More information can be found on the Buddy & Me Program page: <https://sites.google.com/longbranch.k12.nj.us/office-of-dei/buddy-me>. Additionally, the district has created leadership roles dedicated to DEI, such as the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This role advocates for students and families, ensuring DEI principles are embedded in the district's culture. These efforts showcase Long Branch Public Schools' commitment to providing an inclusive and equitable environment for all students. More details on their DEI initiatives can be found in an article on NJSBA: <https://www.njsba.org/school-leader/school-leader-summer-2021/a-focus-on-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-at-long-branch/>.

PDF: [ORIGINAL LETTER-SUPERINTENDENT RODRIGUEZ.PDF](#)

PDF: [SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT- LATEST UPDATE 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [1140 - EDUCATIONAL EQUITY POLICIES:AFFIRMATIVE ACTION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [DEI COUNCIL - WEBPAGE.PNG](#)

IMAGE: [DEI WEBPAGE - RESOURCES.PNG](#)

Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency for School Facilities

30 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools engaged in an Energy Savings Improvement Plan (ESIP) costing nearly \$10 Million dollars. The project completed in June 2019 so we submitted comparison data from 2018-2019 and 2019-2020. Due to change of schedules with COVID we are not submitting data from 2020-2021 since the schools were used less during that time. The project involved lighting and HVAC activities. The first level was to replace every light fixture and upgrade to an LED bulb or fixture across all buildings. The HVAC work was much more involved. At Morris Ave we replaced original unit ventilators, boilers and a 15 year old Chiller and added Building Mgt controls. At, Lenna Conrow we replaced two boilers including one steam boiler and original unit ventilators and added building management controls. At Audrey W Clark School we replaced original boilers and unit ventilators and added building management controls. At JMF we replaced some Roof Top Units (RTU). And finally, the HS saw a 33% decrease in costs by replacing the RTUS at the Gyms, Auditorium, and cafeteria at a cost of nearly \$1 MM. The High School School has experienced a 33.8% reduction in utility costs. As demonstrated in the EUI spreadsheet, the district as a whole achieved 16.6% energy savings.

PDF: [ENERGY AUDIT](#)

PDF: [LGEA AUDIT REPORT - LONG BRANCH BOE - LONG BRANCH HS FINAL 10-27-17.PDF](#)

PDF: [HS TOT 33 REPORT-06-YEAR-OVER-YEAR COMPARISON \(38\).PDF](#)

EXCEL: [EUI_CALCULATOR_FOR_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY_FOR_SCHOOL_FACILITIES_03.18.19 \(2\).XLSX](#)

Food & Nutrition

Healthy Food Choices Beyond the Cafeteria

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public Schools continue to have policies in place for supporting healthy food choices during the 2024-25 school year. We support healthy choice snacks for fundraisers as well as classroom events like Halloween and Birthdays and holidays. At the start of every school year, a letter is sent home, or the School Handbook is posted online to review the guidelines for snacks and food students are allowed to have in school. The Long Branch Schools contracts with Sodexo for our food programs in the schools. The Sodexo staff members are committed to promoting good nutrition, getting the students to choose and try new healthy options on their lunch trays, to stop and think about the path that food takes from the field to the table, and to ENJOY what they are eating! This is a list of what we have done and do on a monthly basis: *Promote and serve Fresh locally grown fruit & vegetable *Frequent Theme days in all schools during lunch *Health nutrition classes in classrooms *Taste testing in all schools during lunch * Healthy Snacks in Classrooms 3 times weekly * Garden Sampling * Student Farmers Markets *Healthy Share Tables Sodexo is promoting healthy food choices in and out of classrooms. The latest and one of their most popular programs is the Top Chef Challenge and the Elementary and Middle School level which allows the students to compete against each other providing healthy food selections that are judged by local culinary professionals and awarded prizes and recognition for their efforts.

PDF: [HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES BEYOND THE CAFETERIA](#)

PDF: [LETTER TO FAMILIES SEPTEMBER](#)

Promote Locally Grown Foods

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: Our Food service program continues to be committed to providing and promoting locally grown foods. We provide locally grown food samples on a monthly basis to students during lunch time with special recipes. We also promote yearly chef competitions with healthy recipes. Long Branch purchases local foods through the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and our efforts to provide the most nutritious foods to our students along with food education and awareness has been recognized at both the national and local level. The Long Branch Schools contracts with Sodexo for our food programs in the schools. The attached invoices show the locally sourced produce purchased by them and delivered to our Middle School, (Sodexo's main location in our district). The produce is then taken to all our schools: LWC, MA, JMF, Gregory, Anastasia, GLC, Middle School, High School and the Alternative Academy (AWC School).

PDF: [EMAIL FOR PROMOTING LOCALLY GROWN FOODS](#)

PDF: [PHOTOS OF LOCALLY GROWN FOOD IN CAFETERIA](#)

PDF: [LETTER OF PARTICIPATION LGP](#)

PDF: [INVOICES AND VOUCHERS](#)

PDF: [MENUS AND NEWSLETTERS](#)

PDF: [MENUS AND NEWSLETTERS](#)

Green Cleaning

Green Cleaning Policy & Plan

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: A proactive plan started by the district's green team several years ago, replaced several harmful cleaning chemicals being used to clean the buildings. There are now no other options for cleaning in our buildings without using approved green products. The Long Branch Public Schools are committed to using green supplies and practices as it relates to our district green cleaning plan. Now an all-purpose peroxide based cleaner that provides for a safer and more effective alternative to previous products used. Several other procedures were changed that increased the cleanliness of the buildings and reduced costs such as microfiber cloths for dusting and floor care. The District Green Committee has been revived as the Green Team. As a refocused team, we started reevaluating our cleaning plan, and to create a policy to assist us in becoming "Greener" in our sustainability efforts. The team worked with our district custodians and our contracted cleaning services to create a written cleaning plan, and with the help of the district policy committee added key points to what would become the green cleaning policy. The policy has been adopted by the board of education, and as a living document, along with the cleaning plan will be updated as technologies become available. The policy has been distributed to staff through an email, and will be presented as part of a green cleaning awareness program for staff, parents, and the community. The district had a solid and effective cleaning plan in place, but it has been refined, and by continually improving cleanliness, health of occupants, and further lowering costs will continue to have a positive impact for students, staff, and the community who use our buildings.

PDF: [LETTER SENT TO STAFF.PDF](#)

PDF: [POLICY 7461 DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY.PDF](#)

PDF: [LBPS UPDATED GREEN CLEANING PLAN](#)

PDF: [POLICY 7660 CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND GREEN INITIATIVES.PDF](#)

Green Cleaning Equipment

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: Long Branch has purchased Green Cleaning machines as we purchase new or replacement machines. Green cleaning equipment is just part of the district's overall plan of a low environmentally cleaning program that incorporates prevention, product selection, equipment efficiency, and effective procedures. Through the purchase and use of green motorized cleaning equipment, our custodians are able to clean more efficiently and ensure allergy- and asthma-friendly environments by improving indoor air quality and eliminating harmful cleaning products. By utilizing a local purchasing coop, we have been able to replace older less efficient equipment while also controlling costs. The newer equipment is quieter, ergonomically designed, uses HEPA filtration, and optimizes chemical use.

PDF: [SBA GREEN EQUIPMENT LETTER](#)

Green Purchasing

Green Purchasing Policy

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

Program Summary: The Long Branch School District is dedicated to decreasing our footprint while increasing our sustainability and community awareness of conservation. A large step for this goal is to include the awareness of sustainability and conservation in all aspects of the district including purchasing. In June of 2015 the board adopted a green initiatives policy that includes green purchasing considerations whenever fiscally responsibility allows. The policy is posted in the board minutes for everyone to read. All District policies are also posted on the school website in a searchable database providing access to all staff and the community. Finally - We are already purchasing sustainable and energy smart appliances and equipment throughout the district! **Updated 11/25/24- The active policy can be found on our website using the links below. 7660 - CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABILITY, AND GREEN INITIATIVES:

<https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=7660&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47> 7461 -

DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY: [https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?](https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=7461&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47)

[policyid=7461&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47](https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=7461&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47)

PDF: [EMAIL TO ENTIRE DISTRICT STAFF](#)

PDF: [GREEN PURCHASING POLICY](#)

Healthy School Environments

Access to Healthy Water in Schools

20 Points

School

Program Summary: In 2025, Long Branch Public Schools (LBPS) continued implementing its Lead Water Testing Plan in compliance with NJDOE regulations (N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4). We updated water outlet and filter inventories, reviewed plumbing layouts, and conducted detailed assessments in all school buildings. Before testing, families, staff, and students were notified through official letters. In April, comprehensive water testing was conducted across all district schools with support from a certified external agency. Some results showed lead levels above the state's allowable limit. Within 24 hours, affected schools were notified, and impacted outlets were labeled as unsafe for drinking. Most elevated levels were linked to low-use fixtures or improper flushing prior to testing. LBPS will retest all affected outlets to ensure compliance and accuracy. A Project Manager oversees documentation, and trained Project Officers were present during sampling. If retesting confirms elevated lead levels, corrective actions will include: Replacing or removing affected fixtures Installing certified lead-removal filters Inspecting and replacing plumbing components if needed Providing alternative safe drinking water Continuing regular water quality monitoring In addition to technical responses, LBPS engaged students in promoting healthy habits. The Science Team and Green Team created posters encouraging water consumption and healthy drink choices, now displayed throughout schools. These efforts support both awareness and student wellness. LBPS remains committed to ensuring the health and safety of all students, staff, and families through transparency, proactive planning, and community involvement. Full school-by-school reports are available here: <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/Page/16156>

PDF: [WATER TESTING ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER 2025 - ENGLISH AND SPANISH.PDF](#)

PDF: [HIGH SCHOOL WATER TEST RESULTS 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [HISTORIC HIGH SCHOOL WATER TEST RESULTS 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [HISTORIC HIGH SCHOOL EXCEEDANCE LETTER - ENGLISH AND SPANISH.PDF](#)

PDF: [SAFE DRINKING WATER NEEDS ASSESSMENT LBHS.DOCX \(2\).PDF](#)

PDF: [SCIENCE TEAM - WATER POSTERS.PDF](#)

Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: As part of our districtwide sustainability efforts, Long Branch Public Schools has implemented strict anti-idling regulations across all nine schools and the District Office. These measures are part of our broader Sustainability Policy and are designed to reduce emissions, protect student and community health, and promote environmental responsibility. Our Anti-Idling Policy was formally adopted in 2022, with an official resolution included in the May 2022 Board of Education meeting minutes. The policy has been posted on the district website and widely shared with all district families and staff to ensure awareness and compliance. Anti-idling educational materials are publicly accessible on the main district webpage here: <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/lbps>. There you will find a PDF informational sheet about idling and its effects. To further promote awareness, the district has installed ten "No Idling Zone" signs at the entrances of each school building. In addition, in-district school buses are regularly monitored for idling and fuel consumption. Our bus drivers receive regular training focused on reducing idling time and improving fuel efficiency, and the newest, most efficient buses are prioritized for use on the longest routes. These ongoing efforts reflect our commitment to both student wellness and environmental sustainability, and we continue to evaluate and expand our practices in alignment with local and state clean air initiatives.

PDF: [LBPS IDLING POICY - 2025.PDF](#)

WORD: [LBPS SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING PACKET-ZONAR SOFTWARE2025.DOCX](#)

PDF: [IDLE TIME FOR BUSES-2025.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [EXAMPLE OF SIGNS OUTSIDE OF BUILDINGS-2025.JPG](#)

PDF: [LETTER -BUSES ASSIGNED TO SHORTER ROUTES- 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [ANTI-IDLING RESOLUTION ON BOARD AGENDA](#)

Classroom Chemical Purchase, Storage & Disposal Policy

15 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public Schools Board of Education acknowledges that some employees in laboratory settings may be exposed to hazardous chemicals. In compliance with federal OSHA regulations, the Board implements a Chemical Hygiene Plan designed to protect employees from potential health hazards. This plan, aligned with District Policy 7420 - Hygienic Management, includes identifying hazardous chemicals, controlling exposure levels, and ensuring proper safety measures are in place. The plan covers several key components: standard operating procedures for handling chemicals, criteria for reducing exposure, and maintaining functional protective equipment such as fume hoods. It also includes provisions for employee training and information, as well as a requirement for prior approval from the District Manager for certain laboratory activities. Additionally, the plan provides for medical consultation, assigns responsibility for its implementation, and ensures extra protection for employees working with particularly hazardous substances. This comprehensive approach, guided by the District's Hygienic Management Policy, aims to safeguard employee health and maintain a safe working environment in the laboratories. Here is a link to the training for the science department:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RPfdihtRUN2b72RI7JFCjm0Qtj23ut6xh9oyXJdXMCA/edit?usp=sharing> The Google Form Sign in for the Professional Learning Community in which our science teachers were trained is attached. At the training the staff was given access to the Flinn Scientific website, where they made an account. Through this website teachers were able to access chemical safety and chemical handling training videos for them and their students as needed. They were also provided a document that had quick links added for their convenience to chemical usage and storage. In April, the supervisor and principal of each building did a walkthrough to ensure that

chemicals were locked securely and stored properly and safely. In addition, they also ensured that all chemicals were labeled properly whether acidic or not.

PDF: [7420 - HYGIENIC MANAGEMENT \(M\).PDF](#)

PDF: [SUBMISSION FORM .PDF](#)

PDF: [LONG BRANCH PUBLIC SCHOOLS - CLASSROOM CHEMICAL PURCHASE, STORAGE & DISPOSAL POLICY - 2025\(8.5 X 11 IN\).PDF](#)

IMAGE: [SCREENSHOT 2025-06-04 AT 1.20.48?PM.PNG](#)

Outdoor Air Quality Awareness Program

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: Understanding the importance of breathing healthy air, the Long Branch Public School district has continued implementing the outdoor air quality program as modeled by www.airnow.gov in each of our 9 schools for the 2022-23 school year. At all schools, this program allows for both our students and staff to not only understand the importance of healthy air quality but the appropriate activities that are promoted for a healthy lifestyle in each of these air quality categories. Representative of the outdoor air quality, these flags set the standard for outdoor activity in each building. Administrators, staff, and students have learned about the importance of the program and the significance of each of the flag colors. The nursing department is sharing the responsibility of informing teachers of climate sensitive students. The program influences each of our students through participation in Physical Education Classes and recess activities, as well as after school and athletic sports programs. Each building has set aside designated indoor areas when necessary to allow for the continuation of gross motor play and practice. Flags are coordinated daily based on the information displayed on the widget provided by airnow.gov displayed on our district webpage and daily emails received by administrators, and educators in each building. Staff and students are made aware of these levels as they enter through lobbies in each building or walking by the flag poles. The protocols from previous years remain in place.

WORD: [OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY AWARENESS PROGRAM PROTOCOL](#)

PDF: [OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [LETTERS TO FAMILIES](#)

PDF: [DISTRICT LETTER OF PARTICIPATION](#)

PDF: [AIR QUALITY PHOTOS](#)

Radon Testing, Education and Mitigation

10 Points

School

Program Summary: Our district continues to test Radon as a condition of providing a healthy environment for our students and staff. We last performed our test in April of 2022.. No radon remediation was required at Audrey W. Clark. All of our radon testing was completed by a fully licensed and certified company for testing as well as remediation. We received a grant from the DEp that covered 100% of the testing costs. All floor plans remain the same all results are shared with the community and can be found on the following district website, <https://www.longbranch.k12.nj.us/Page/6399>.

PDF: [RADON TESTING RESULTS LBHS](#)

Innovation Projects

Innovative Project #1

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The "Social with a Side of Justice" podcast, produced by the Long Branch Public Schools Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, has gained attention across news outlets and social media platforms. Notably, Senator Vin Gopal opened Season 2 with a discussion on food insecurity, which was highlighted in a press release. This student-run podcast, created by students in the School of Social Justice at Long Branch High School, tackles critical social issues each year. Last year, the podcast focused on food inequity, while this year, the topic shifted to women in the workforce, exploring gender equality, career challenges, and empowerment. Guests like Dr. Nicole Pulliam and Dr. Vernon S. Smith have appeared on the podcast, with Dr. Pulliam sharing her experience on LinkedIn. The podcast is also active on Instagram (@socialjpodcast), where it engages with listeners and shares new episodes. In addition to the podcast, Long Branch students are involved in projects that promote social change, such as creating sustainable gardens to combat food insecurity. This year, LBPS opened a dedicated podcast classroom, allowing students across the district to create their own podcasts, invite guests, and discuss various topics. This new resource provides students with a space to explore their interests and gain valuable insights into various topics. Through these initiatives, LBPS students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills while fostering a sense of responsibility and civic engagement. The podcast's presence on social media and its impact on the community reflect the ongoing commitment to promoting justice and equity. Attached is a detailed description of the project as well as links to the actual podcasts.

WORD: [PROJECT OVERVIEW - PODCAST SOCIAL WITH A SIDE OF JUSTICE .DOCX](#)

Learning Environment

All Arts Disciplines Offered

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The Visual, Industrial, and Performing Arts continue to be an essential for a thriving community. The overall goal of the Visual and Performing Arts department is to provide a wide variety of experiences. Students are provided the greatest opportunity for success and the developmental level of each child is considered when selecting activities. Creative thinking, problem solving and critical thinking skills are nurtured throughout each course. Our purpose is to enhance the strengths of the students while creating awareness, building self-esteem and fostering leadership skills. The Long Branch Public Schools provide a various opportunities for students to be engrossed in enriching arts programs both during and after school.

PDF: [SCHOOL REPORT LBMS](#)

PDF: [LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISOR OF VISUAL PERFORMING AND INDUSTRIAL ARTS](#)

PDF: [LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT](#)

PDF: [SCHOOL REPORT LBHS](#)

Student Participation in the Arts

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The overall goal of the VPA department is to provide a wide variety of experiences for our children. Courses include visual arts, dance, drama, vocal music, instrumental music, music technology, digital arts, TV & film. Creative thinking, problem solving and critical thinking skills are nurtured throughout each course. Our purpose is to enhance the strengths of the students while creating awareness, building self-esteem and fostering leadership skills. Students are afforded the greatest opportunity for success and the developmental level of each child is considered when selecting activities. Courses throughout the Visual & Performing Art department continue to stress the importance of sustainability and conserving our natural resources. Attached is a list of community activities the district was involved in with regards to the arts, letters from the Superintendent stating the courses and highly qualified teachers in our district, as well as the NJ School Report for the Visual & Performing Arts in our schools.

PDF: [PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS LBMS](#)

PDF: [PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS LBHS](#)

PDF: [STUDENTS PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS LETTER OF PARTICIPATION.](#)

PDF: [SCHOOL LETTERS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT](#)

Student & Community Outreach

Green Team

15 Points

 Bronze Required School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Public School District's Green Team is dedicated to promoting environmental and digital education while fostering a culture of environmental stewardship across all schools in the district. Each school is represented on the team, ensuring that sustainability efforts are inclusive and widespread throughout the district. Over the past several years, the Green Team has spearheaded numerous sustainable practices and initiatives, including environmental awareness campaigns, site clean-ups, energy-saving and recycling programs, green cleaning practices, food and nutrition education, school gardens, and more. These efforts not only help reduce the district's environmental footprint but also educate students and staff about the importance of sustainability. The district's Office of Sustainability plays a vital role in leading these efforts, providing guidance and support to the Green Team as well as overseeing sustainability initiatives across all schools. The office ensures that the team remains focused on impactful projects and works closely with local municipalities and experts to bring in high-quality professional development opportunities. For example, the Green Team has benefitted from the insights of experts like Dr. Joseph Soporoski and partnerships with local municipalities to continue enhancing their programs. With representatives from all nine schools in the district, including members from the District Office, the Green Team is committed to cultivating a sustainable and environmentally conscious community within Long Branch Public Schools. More information can be found on the district's Office of Sustainability Website: <https://sites.google.com/longbranch.k12.nj.us/sustainability/home-page> In Sept 2024 - the Board recognized the work of the Green team under "3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT".

PDF: [LBSEA LETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY 2024-2025 MEETING AGENDAS .PDF](#)

PDF: [OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY 2024-2025 REPORT \(1\).PDF](#)

IMAGE: [SOCIAL MEDIA-AWARDS2024.PNG](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM LETTER- J. SICKLER MAY 2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 2024-09-25-2024.PDF](#)

Student Learning

Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Career and Technical Education

5 Points

School

Program Summary: The purpose of this lesson is to engage students in the practice of upcycling fabric scraps, which provides both environmental and creative benefits. By repurposing old t-shirts and leftover fabric, students will actively contribute to reducing textile waste, which is a growing issue in today's consumer-driven society. Textile waste not only fills landfills but also contributes to pollution through the production and disposal of synthetic fabrics. This lesson allows students to practice sustainability in a hands-on, creative way, making the concept of environmental responsibility more accessible and actionable. Through the creation of functional items such as tote bags, bookmarks, and quilted blocks, students will gain practical skills in sewing and upcycling. These skills can be applied to other areas of life, empowering students to make conscious decisions about waste and resource management. Additionally, the lesson fosters critical thinking about consumerism, waste reduction, and the impact of individual actions on the environment. It emphasizes the importance of rethinking everyday materials and considering how they can be reused in new, innovative ways. By personalizing and creating their own projects, students also experience the satisfaction of crafting something useful and unique, which fosters a deeper sense of connection to their environment and the materials they use. In essence, this lesson not only teaches sewing and crafting techniques but also empowers students to become environmentally conscious makers, helping to build a foundation for sustainable living. Included is a photo of our student selling aprons, Patchwork Blocks, and pillows created from this lesson.

PDF: [SEWING LESSON PLAN - GRADES 9-12.DOCX.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [290A3070.JPG](#)

Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Science

5 Points

School

Program Summary: The purpose of the "plastic pollution project" are for the students to understand and analyze the impact plastic waste has on the surround environment. The students were able to simulate the pacific garbage patch by utilizing a kiddie pool and test their creations on plastic floating in it. Through this process the students were able to understand the difficulty cleaning garbage out of the water. Students created a prototype to clean the water.

WORD: [GREAT PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH LESSON PLAN](#)

PDF: [STUDENT SAMPLE](#)

PDF: [RUBRIC](#)

Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Social Studies

5 Points

School

Program Summary: Environmental justice is a crucial aspect of social justice that addresses the unequal distribution of environmental benefits and burdens. This lesson introduces students to the concept of environmental justice, highlighting how marginalized communities—particularly low-income communities and communities of color—are disproportionately affected by environmental hazards such as pollution, toxic waste, and inadequate access to clean air and water. Student Sample: <https://new.express.adobe.com/publishedV2/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:fb566871-13c6-4148-b6ef-2dd8b08c3ee1?category=search> The lesson begins with a discussion on the definition of environmental justice and key concepts such as environmental racism, disproportionate impact, and activism. Students will explore the historical and contemporary significance of environmental justice by examining real-world case studies, including the Flint water crisis, Hurricane Katrina's impact on low-income communities, and the Dakota Access Pipeline protests at Standing Rock. Through group discussions and presentations, students will analyze these cases, considering the role of race, income, and government policies in shaping environmental outcomes. In the second half of the lesson, students will explore solutions and advocacy strategies, including policy reforms, community activism, and sustainable practices. They will discuss the role of grassroots organizations and environmental movements in pushing for systemic change. By the end of the lesson, students will reflect on the importance of environmental justice and identify actions they can take to promote equitable environmental policies in their own communities. This lesson empowers students with critical thinking skills to understand the intersections of social and environmental issues. It encourages them to become advocates for change by recognizing the real-world implications of environmental injustice and exploring ways to contribute to a more sustainable and equitable society. Through case studies, discussions, and reflections, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the importance of environmental justice within the broader framework of social justice.

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM PROJECT.PDF](#)

PDF: [CISEK ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LESSON PLAN.PDF](#)

WORD: [EFS LESSON PLAN](#)

PDF: [CISEL GRADED RUBRIC.PDF](#)

Student and Staff Wellness

Policies to Promote Physical Activity

10 Points

District

Program Summary: Long Branch's quality Physical Education/wellness program is fundamental for our students. Why do children need a quality PE/wellness program? The simple answer is so that they will remain physically active throughout their lifetime and reap the benefits of doing so. Quality PE/wellness provides students with a multitude of important learning experiences that cannot be duplicated in the classroom. Physical Education/wellness is that phase of education which is concerned with the teaching of skills, improving physical fitness, the reinforcement of other subjects, self-discipline, leadership and cooperation, enhancing self-efficacy, stress reduction, and strengthening peer relationships. Physical activity contributes much to the growth, development, and the general well-being of every individual. We believe that Long Branch Public Schools are; "Where Children Matter Most". With this philosophy in mind, we are certain that our Fitness Programs and Opportunities will teach continuous growth and achievement for all students, without exceptions. The current policy can be found on the below links Health and Physical Ed: <https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=2422&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47> Sustainability: <https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=7461&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47> Nutrition: <https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=8505&id=b50ce4ebbb5f451db593dc1acdca7f47>

WORD: POLICIES TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Staff Wellness Program

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Long Branch Schools goes above and beyond to promote staff wellness. As part of our culture of sustainability, our on site health center is more active than ever. The Partnership Health Center, located at the Long Branch High School (<https://www.partnershiphealthcenters.com/>) provides medical and wellness support for all staff and their family members 7 days a week. The Partnership Health Center Long Branch (PHCLB) addresses all members' basic wellness and medical needs under one roof of over 5000 sq.ft. The health center's activities are centered around the theme of "Care for the Whole You". Employees pay no co-pays or deductibles for any services or programs of the health center. It is open 7 days a week for 65 hours, opening weekdays from 7 AM to 6 PM and Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00-1:00 throughout the year. The wellness center is located centrally in the school district on school property, making it a convenient location to all work sites. The center continues to provide monthly newsletters, diagnostic services, as well as nutrition, chiropractic care, physical therapy, yoga, and other programs targeting staff wellness and activities. In addition we have a Wellness Coach specializing in all staff and student wellness needs. From PD days, to weekly zoom lessons, mindful yoga, video sessions, and more.

PDF: PARTNERSHIP HEALTH SERVICES

PDF: STAFF WELLNESS LETTER AND PLAN

PDF: WAVE WELLNESS COACHING

Student Safety

Safe Routes to School District Policy

10 Points

District

Program Summary: Long Branch Public Schools is committed to promoting the benefits of establishing and promoting safe routes to school. We have established the guidelines and expectations for students and parents/guardians within our district policy adopted in January 2018. We regularly collaborate with our law enforcement, local organizations such as EZ Rides, and other community agencies to plan, construct, and encourage the use of safe, accessible, and convenient pedestrian and bicycle routes to school. We host bike rodeos, bike and helmet safety assemblies. In addition, our District is very active in the NJ Safe Routes to School program and has been awarded recognition for some of our schools. A proposal to update and renew our Safe Routes to School District Policy to reflect a more comprehensive and modern approach was adopted by the board in June 2022. The new unified policy has district condition standards explicitly included rather than being at the discretion of each school. More information can be found on our Sustainability Webpage here: <https://sites.google.com/longbranch.k12.nj.us/gardens/safe-routes?authuser=0>

PDF: LONG BRANCH SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY