



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report of Leonia High School (Bergen), a Sustainable Jersey for Schools bronze certified applicant.

Leonia High School (Bergen) was certified on August 12, 2019 with 150 points. Listed below is information regarding Leonia High School (Bergen)'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 Leonia High School (Bergen) is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Leonia High School (Bergen) was approved for in 2019 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

Professional Development for Sustainability

10 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority School District

Program Summary: Education is an important part of promoting sustainable practice. Quality professional development of staff and Board members facilitates the effective transition to

sustainability planning and practices for schools and school districts. Enhancing the knowledge of school personnel about the benefits and requirements of sustainability practices in a school setting increases the likelihood of a successful integration of sustainability into the school district's operations and promotes shared ownership of the outcomes. The Leonia School Board has included Professional Development as a goal for its Sustainability Policy.

WORD: [PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY DOCUMENTATION](#)

District Sustainability Policy

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The Board of Education of the Leonia School District approved a Sustainability Policy on November 28th, 2017. The goals of this policy are to protect students, staff, and community from environmental harm, prepare students for the future by educating for sustainability, and to preserve current and future resources. Future efforts to promote sustainability goals were outlined in the policy at that time. Below is a list of these efforts and their status to date.

WORD: [DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION](#)

School Community Asset Mapping

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: Community Asset Mapping is a means of cataloguing all the resources in town that are available to its people. This purpose of this map is to provide local schools and community groups with a tool to easily locate information regarding a particular resource. By understanding what resources are available in our community, the Leonia School District Green Team hopes to foster collaboration on future efforts to promote sustainability. We began this project by brainstorming among members of the Green Team regarding available resources and mapping platforms. We partitioned these resources into the following categories: Recreation & Sports, Civic Programs, School-based Programs, Historical Places, Parks, Health Centers, Places of Worship, Government, Public Schools, Private Schools, Senior Activities, Gardens, Libraries, Post Offices, and Natural Resources. Each entry included an address and telephone number, as well as a website like if available. Information was first collected onto a Google Spreadsheet.

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

EXCEL: [SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING DATA](#)

Food & Nutrition

Promote Locally Grown Foods

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Leonia School District has partnered with Maschio's Food Services (<http://maschiofood.com/>) to bring fresh, locally grown produce - whenever possible - through their Farm-to-School Program.

WORD: [PROMOTE LOCALLY GROWN FOODS DOCUMENTATION](#)

Green Cleaning

Green Cleaning Supplies

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: In previous years, the custodians in the Leonia School District would use standard supplies to clean and maintain the grounds for our 3 schools (Anna C. Scott Elementary School, Leonia Middle School, Leonia High School). These supplies included paper towels and disposable rags as well as a wide variety of environmentally-harmful chemicals. In September 2018, the school district made a decision to switch to microfiber rags that could be laundered as well as using only environmentally-safe chemicals (i.e. H2Orange2 by Envirox). The product we are using is certified by both the NSF (<http://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/who-is-nsf-international>) and the EPA (<https://www.epa.gov/>).

PDF: [DESCRIPTION, INVOICES](#)

PDF: [LETTER FROM BA](#)

Green Cleaning Equipment

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Leonia School District seeks to maintain a healthy school environment free of allergens and toxins for all of its students and staff. With this end in mind, the District has begun to replace outdated and environmentally unfriendly equipment with newer equipment that meets modern health and environmental standards.

WORD: [GREEN CLEANING EQUIPMENT DOCUMENTATION](#)

Green Cleaning Training & Education Programs

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Leonia School District has satisfied the requirements for this Action through both live education and online courses. In 2018, a large portion of our custodial staff received a free 2-hour training course through Bioshine (<http://www.bio-shine.com/solutions/free-training/>). This onsite training provided training on best “green” practices for cleaning equipment, floors, and a variety of other surfaces. In addition, several members of our faculty have engaged in over 2 hours of online training with the EPA.

WORD: [GREEN CLEANING TRAINING & EDUCATION PROGRAMS DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [GREEN CLEANING TRAINING CERTIFICATES](#)

Healthy School Environments

Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: On January 22nd, 2019, the Leonia Board of Education celebrated the passing of its anti-idling resolution. The resolution was the result of conversations between Board members, the Green Team, the district’s Director of Buildings and Grounds and Superintendent.

WORD: [ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [ANTI-IDLING TRAINING](#)

Innovation Projects

Innovative Project #1

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: As the Leonia School District bus fleet ages, new replacements will be required at a rate of approximately three buses per year over the next several years. That said, the Leonia Board of Education has chosen to phase out diesel and join the nearly 850 other school districts across the U.S. and Canada that operate Blue Bird propane school buses

WORD: [INNOVATIVE PROJECT #1 DOCUMENTATION](#)

Learning Environment

Student Participation in the Arts

10 Points

District

Program Summary: Leonia is a town founded in the arts since the 1890s when artists began settling in Leonia. With its proximity to the cultural hub that New York City offers, Leonia is home to many musicians, actors, theater workers, and artists. The Leonia School District has always been strong advocates of the arts providing all students in the school district an opportunity to participate in music and art classes. The district has thus committed to ensure that all students are exposed to art and music education at every grade level. This enthusiasm has culminated in our recent efforts to provide high school students, who are interested in the arts, a structured program where they can pursue advanced coursework in art and music. The Leonia Music Conservatory and Leonia Art Conservatory allow interested students a pathway to do just that. Students enrolled in this academy can choose art or music as a major and take classes every semester. Students who participate in art and music in our schools enrich not only their school but the community around them.

WORD: [STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS DOCUMENTATION](#)

Student & Community Outreach

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required School District

Program Summary: Leonia's District Level Green Team was formed in October 2017. We have continued to add members throughout the year. Our school district had been awarded a \$10,000 NJEA grant from Sustainable Jersey for Schools this past year and much of our work has been directed towards grant planning, grant writing, and now carrying out the objectives of the grant. In addition, we have begun working towards certification with Sustainable Jersey for Schools. The mission of Leonia's Green Team is to develop sustainable practices that not only better our students' school environment but encourage them to continue working towards sustainability in their lives and future careers.

PDF: [GREEN TEAM DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [GREETN TEAM LETTER FROM SUPERINTENDENT](#)

Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School

Program Summary: In order to promote sustainability, it is important for the Leonia High School (LHS) to explore ways to disseminate ideas outside of its walls. LHS took part in three Community Educational and Outreach efforts. First, as diversity and culture are important aspects of sustainability, LHS promoted its annual “We Are All Americans Day” engaging students and the community in an understanding of Leonia’s rich diversity. (May 25th, 2018). Through poetry-readings, music and dance performances, history lessons, and a day-long smorgasbord buffet from countries all around the world, students sought to educate the community on the importance of cultural acceptance in promoting sustainability. Second, in an effort to educate the community on the value of conservation and environmental sustainability, the School District Green Team created a website (<http://zerowasteleoniam.org/>). This website includes information for the community regarding why zero waste is important, a description of the Leonia Green Team, local community environmental events, tips for reducing waste, as well as all the amazing efforts each school (ACS, LMS, and LHS) is performing to bring Leonia closer to a community that creates zero waste. Third, LHS also participated in the School District’s Green Team’s collaboration with the Environmental Commission on Leonia Day. Students from the Elementary School, the Middle School, and High School all came together on May 19th, 2019 to offer presentations to the community on different environmental concerns each student had. Many students from each school submitted presentations for display. In addition, students from each school were on-hand to discuss with the community why they thought their environmental work was significant. Clips from these presentations can be found at <http://zerowasteleoniam.org/2019/05/20/leoniam-day-may-19-2019/>.

WORD: COMMUNITY EDUCATION & OUTREACH DOCUMENTATION

Green Challenges

10 Points

School

Program Summary: In an effort to bring awareness to the environmental harms of plastic bags, the Leonia School District Green Team introduced a Plastic Film Collection Challenge. Flyers publicizing the Challenge were sent home with students at the Elementary School (ACS), Middle School (LMS) and High School (LHS), in their backpacks, and were E-blasted to all parent emails in late April 2019. For the month of May 2019, the three schools competed against each other for the most plastic film collected based on weight.

WORD: GREEN CHALLENGES DOCUMENTATION

Student Safety

Safe Routes to School District Policy

10 Points

District

Program Summary: The Leonia School District implemented a “District Sustainability Policy” policy on November 28, 2017 that includes a section to promote “Safe Routes to School.” The goal, as stated by the adopted policy, says that “The Board of Education and the administration will collaborate with municipal, county or State transportation, land-use planning, law

enforcement, and other agencies to plan, construct, and encourage the use of safe, accessible, and convenient pedestrian and bicycle routes to and from school.”

PDF: [DISTRICT POLICY](#)

PDF: [STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

IMAGE: [FLYER](#)

WORD: [SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [ACS REPORT](#)

PDF: [LMS REPORT](#)

Waste Reduction & Recycling

Recycling Non-Mandated Materials

10 Points

School

Program Summary: In 2018, the Leonia School District was awarded a \$10,000 NJEA Sustainable Jersey grant as well as a \$5,000 grant from the Carton Council. The District used a portion of these funds to purchase and implement a paper-carton recycling station in each of the District’s schools (Anna C. Scott Elementary School, Leonia Middle School, and Leonia High School). These stations allow students to empty their milk or juice into a sink that drains into a bucket. The liquid is transported by the custodian and disposed of in the sink. The cartons are then collected separately from the trash and placed in the dumpster for paper-recycling. The benefits of using the paper-carton recycling stations are plenty: Increased recycling of paper-cartons Increased revenue to town by decreasing cost of trash disposal. Leonia school district pays to dispose of trash (-\$70/ton) but receives a credit (\$60/ton) for recycling paper. Decreased custodial workload of transporting heavy bags filled with liquids.

PDF: [RECYCLING NON-MANDATED MATERIALS DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [RECYCLING NON-MANDATED MATERIALS DOCUMENTATION](#)