



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

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

Delran Middle School has had a strong homegrown interest in conservation and greening the buildings and grounds for staff and students. The programs which have been in place have not been directed by a "plan" up until this point. As of today, the district is beginning to generate the interest in joining the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program. The teachers have shown great interest in being a part of the program. The union is now in negotiations to add the positions of Green Team Advisor to their paid stipend positions. In the meantime, our practices and curriculum continue to acknowledge the goals of the program, while we wait for the negotiations to finalize their position, role and responsibilities.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey for Schools contact for Delran Middle School (Burlington) is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Delran Middle School (Burlington) was approved for in 2023 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. Our Superintendent, Dr. Brian Brotschul was named Superintendent of Burlington County in 2021 and 2022 NJASA Region III Superintendent of the Year. His video clarifies the commitment to sustainability in his video linked here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/19N42LXDMEI47_WAQ-SmYiEpJYAvkhg9f/view?usp=sharing This video also <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HiuOD7A6Agc> demonstrates the commitment to the work of our alliance. 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 Within that link, on page 45, starts the policy for the district's requirements for sustainability initiatives and programming. 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

PDF: [DELTRAN SUSTAINABILITY POLICY 7461 JUNE 2020.PDF](#)

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

School District Foundation

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: The Delran Education Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, was formed early in 2015 with the support of the Delran Board of Education and the district's superintendent, Dr. Brian Brotschul. Their website can be found at www.delranedfoundation.org (Although the Foundation has the district's support, they operate independently.) The Foundation was modeled after other local education foundations, such as the Medford Education Foundation, the Moorestown Education Foundation and the Mount Laurel Public Education Fund, all of which have provided significant financial support to their respective districts. Since New Jersey schools face constant funding challenges and operating costs are increasing rapidly, government our funding is decreasing. With such tight resources, school districts are often unable to fund the kinds of innovative programs that would develop and enhance skills necessary for success in the 21st century. In order to combat these financial strains, the Foundation raises money from local businesses, corporate sponsors, parents, alumni, and other supporters throughout the community. These contributions are used to support educationally sound, cutting-edge programs designed to better prepare Delran students for the rapidly-changing world. One of the main

initiatives of the foundation is to support our programs in sustainability and STEAM initiatives. Each year, teachers and other professionals within the district are encouraged to apply for grants to be used for innovative educational programs. Grants are awarded competitively for projects and ideas that will have the greatest positive impact on students' educational experience. Teachers and Delran administrators filled out a Google Form to submit their project requests: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeP64VYhPf4ai-DflfJgz-JJP8k-f9jhUopAjBX1DB1BXpcg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0> This is the DEF's explanatory video: <https://youtu.be/IXVtNE8Q1vU> The upload below shows the summary from the Education Foundation of the chosen projects which are made available to ALL staff in the Delran Township Public Schools in the opening day of school. The foundation also provided a more detailed speech to staff about the winners of this grant cycles grant. Finally , Tweets from Delran Township Schools as well as Principal Broadcasts note the achievements. A grant FAQ for this year's grant cycle can be accessed here: <https://www.delranedfoundation.org/grants/faq/>

WORD: [AWARD SPEECH.DOCX](#)

PDF: [2021-2022 DEF GRANT AWARD RECIPIENTS.PDF](#)

Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency for School Facilities

50 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School District

Program Summary: Delran Township School District has seen significant energy savings by implementing several energy conservation measures as part of their ESIP project with Schneider Electric. Together, the district successfully installed solar panels on all four school buildings. After obtaining the solar power, they were able to reduce energy consumption by 32.57% across the district. This has helped to reallocate energy and capital elsewhere. The EUI spreadsheet shows a significant reduction of 32.57% from 2016 to 2018, the time periods before the ESIP project, and after 1 year of measurement and verification.

PDF: [LGEA](#)

EXCEL: [EUI SPREADSHEET - 12/16 - 8/18](#)

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: The Green Team and Garden Club have joined forces in beautifying our school's grounds. We have removed bamboo from an existing bed in preparation for a future learning center for gardening. Our plan is to work in concert with our self-contained classes to build upon this bed. In preparation for the removal process, the students learned about invasive species and how to remove from the root. This garden is free from pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides. In other areas of the courtyard and around our building, we have planted daffodil bulbs, mums, tulips, milkweed seeds, an avocado tree (donated by a staff member), a lemon bush (donated by a staff member), and a ruby falls tree. Throughout the process, our students have learned the importance of pollinators along with creating nesting areas for wildlife. We were able to work with our municipal green team to learn how to plant a ball and burlap tree and have utilized our compost created from food waste to provide nutrients for the plants. We look forward to building upon our gardens in the future. Lessons on the pollinators and invasive species are from <https://www.biaquariumstem.org/pollinators-vs-invasive-species.html>

PDF: [SCHOOL GARDEN PICTURES](#)

PDF: [WEEPING REDBUD INVOICE](#)

PDF: [GARDENING EMAILS TO STAFF.PDF](#)

PDF: [SCHOOL_GARDEN_REPORT.PDF](#)

Green Cleaning

Green Cleaning Equipment

10 Points

School District

Program Summary: Delran Township Public Schools and T.U.C.S Cleaning services began their service contract for the 2015-2016 school year. The details of the contract specified Green Cleaning Supplies as a requirement for the bid to be accepted. The RFP included Custodial and Black Seal Operator Services to ensure proper training and protocols. T.U.C.S servicing contract outlines management, custodial operations, Green equipment utilized includes the attached list of scrubbers, vacuums and extractors. The T.U.C.S Green Cleaning Program utilizes products that are non-toxic, biodegradable and made from renewable resources, as well as microfiber systems and powdered equipment that capture and/or collect particulates while operating at a sound level of less than 70dBA. The custodial staff inspect the dust bag every two hours and replace the bag when full to ensure proper dust collection and removal. Auto scrubbers limit worker exposure to chemicals and the green solutions used by the staff are non-toxic and non-corrosive. Most importantly, these products are effective, in addition to the benefits of being environmentally safe. The Green Cleaning Equipment includes: the Advance EcoFlex system floor scrubber model SC750 REV, Tennant Floor Machine FM-17SS, Tennant Upright Vacuum V-SMU-14, Nobles Dry/Wet Vacuum V-WD-15 and 16B, and the Tennant Self-Contained Extractor EX-SC-412. The contract with T.U.C.S is contract dated in the attachment through June 30, 2022. the latest BOE approval for their service is attached, dated 6/14/21 as public notice. Additionally, the documented equipment is what is used for the purposes of the contracted cleaning agreement.

PDF: [GREEN CLEAN PROGRAM TUCS \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [TUCS TABLE OF CONTENTS \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [TUCS 21-22 CONTRACT \(1\).PDF](#)

Student & Community Outreach

Green Team

15 Points

 Bronze Required School District

Program Summary: 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 resource 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 has 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 proceeding year. See the documentation for the meetings in the Annual Summaries- * The attached Board of Education approval for the Sustainability Project Managers for the year * The letter of support from Superintendent, Dr. Brian Brotschul * Delran Township

Schools District Green Team Strategic Plan for the year * 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

PDF: [BOARDAPPROVALMINUTESSTEM.PDF](#)

PDF: [DELTRAN GREEN TEAM LETTER 3_8_23.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [DELTRANSTEMORG WEBSITE.JPG](#)

PDF: [DISTRICT GREEN TEAM STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2023 \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE JERSEY FOR SCHOOLS BRONZE LEVEL CERTIFICATION ACHIEVEMENT SHARED WITH THE COMMUNITY.PDF](#)

Civic & Stewardship Volunteer Initiatives

10 Points

School

Program Summary: The Green Team conducted their annual community cleanup on April 27, 2023. Students began their day with planting a tree on school grounds for Arbor day. Afterwards, they reviewed learning safety procedures when dealing with waste and received gloves that can be washed and reused along with pickers. There was an immense amount of small and large trash that had built up next to the Swedes Run creek. This area was identified as a high-need space after we conducted our first cleanup in 2018. The Township in collaboration with the Municipal Green Team provided the bags and garbage grabbers to borrow. Students felt connected to their community and great pride over what they accomplished. All together, they collected 17 bags of garbage and 3 bags of recycling. The Green Team also worked with Cathedral Kitchen of Camden. Cathedral Kitchen's mission is to help people out of food insecurity and champion their pursuit of stability and prosperity. Our team welcomed donations from staff and students at DMS and delivered them on December 14th, 2022. All together, DMS donated 127 snack bars, 109 sandwiches, and 22 pieces of fruit. The Green Team also created placemats to decorate for the holiday. The project sparked conversations about availability of resources and our students felt pride in their ability to help others.

PDF: [COPY OF 22-23 CLEANUP PERMISSION SLIP GREEN TEAM.PDF](#)

PDF: [PICTURES OF CLEANUP.PDF](#)

PDF: [CATHEDRAL KITCHEN CONFIRMATION.PDF](#)

PDF: [CATHEDRAL KITCHEN DONATION DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [CATHEDRAL KITCHEN PICTURES AND SMORE](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

School

Program Summary: On May 15, 2023, Delran School District held its annual STEM Fair. This day not only celebrated the STEM activities that took place over the course of the school year, but also educated the community on several of the green initiatives undertaken throughout the district. The Delran Middle School Green Team was able to highlight its composting initiative. During school lunch periods, its Food Waste Warriors encourage students to sort any garbage that is compostable into the appropriate container so that it can be composted onsite. A bag of freshly composted material was available for the community to see and student volunteers described the process of collecting the material and how the finished product could be used in household pots

and gardens. Students provided options for at-home composting for those interested in reducing food waste. The Green Team created a game for children to play, "Compost or Not?". Children sorted pictures to show their understand of what is compostable, recyclable, or garbage.

PDF: [DELTRAN STEM FAIR PROGRAM/FLIER](#)

PDF: [COMPOSTATHOME.PDF](#)

PDF: [STEMFAIRPICTURES.PDF](#)

PDF: [COMPOST AT HOME.PDF](#)

Waste Reduction & Recycling

Waste Audit

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School

Program Summary: Delran Middle School was awarded a grant and the opportunity to be a part of a School Food Waste Pilot Program. This program has awarded us the chance to work with Sustainable Jersey and Rutgers Cooperative Extension to find ways to reduce our food waste. As a part of the program, we participated in 2 rounds of food waste audits. Our initial audit took place in October of 2021 with our second round in October of 2022. We have used the information to inform students and create our food waste management system.

PDF: [FOOD WASTE REPORT](#)

PDF: [FOOD WASTE AUDIT SURVEY DATA](#)

PDF: [FOOD WASTE AUDIT PICTURES](#)

Food Waste Recycling or Composting

15 Points

School

Program Summary: With a \$25K EPA Grant through Sustainable Jersey for Schools, we purchased a composter for our middle school. Since then, we have transformed our methods in handling food waste within our cafeteria. We increased the acceptable recycling items to include milk cartons. Recycling is then placed in a designated dumpster for Burlington County to pick up. We now have a food waste bin that is emptied into the composter on a daily basis. Compost that has been created over this school year has been used for gardens housed at all of our schools in the district. To successfully carry out our change in methods, we created a Food Waste Warrior program. Students volunteer to assist their peers in categorizing their waste appropriately. Science teachers supported the efforts of the Green Team within the classroom by providing the "why" it is important to reduce food waste as well an overview of the process. The entire school, students, teachers, custodial staff, and Nutriserve personnel, have worked together to transform our management of waste.

PDF: [FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT PICTURES.PDF](#)

PDF: [STAFF COMMUNICATION TO PREPARE STUDENTS](#)

PDF: [STUDENT SLIDESHOW-INSTRUCTIONS FOR WASTE SYSTEM](#)

PDF: [SAMPLE FOOD WASTE WARRIOR SCHEDULE](#)

PDF: [COMPOSTING PROTOCOL FOR CAFE/CUSTODIAL STAFF](#)

PDF: [FOOD WASTE WARRIOR INFO SHEET](#)