



Sustainable Jersey Digital Schools Deep Dive: Digital Learning Practices







Presenters

George L. Catrambone E. S., Long Branch Public Schools Kelly Stone, K-5 STEM Teacher Elizabeth Gannon, First Grade Teacher

Essex County Schools of Technology Emily Bonilla, Vice Principal & District Digital Learning Initiatives Coordinator *Daniel Delcher* - Career & Technical Education Teacher & District Sustainability Coordinator





Presenters

Mountain View E. S., Mount Olive Township Schools **Dr. Rebecca Kreider**, Supervisor of Information Technology & STEAM

Rebecca Day, 5th grade teacher

Hackensack Middle SchoolMaureen Carroll, Library Media SpecialistDaniella Pitasi, 6th Grade Teacher, Social Studies

Laurence Cocco Senior Program Consultant, Sustainable Jersey Digital Schools



Sustainable Jersey for Schools

Not-for-profit program providing tools, training, and grants to help implement sustainability initiatives and achieve certification.

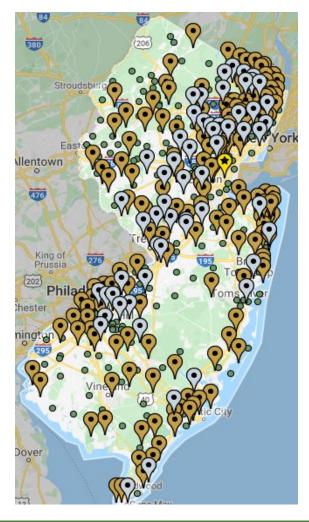


- Launched in 2014
- Modeled after successful municipal program
- Free and voluntary
- NJ-based and consensus driven
- Awards certification to individual schools, requires School Board and district level support

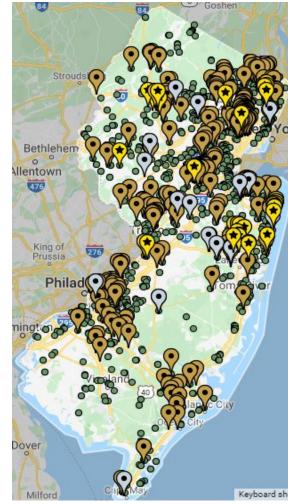


Sustainable Jersey Participants

Municipal Program Participants



School Program Participants



School Program

374 Districts Registered

• 64% of NJ Districts

1025 Schools Registered

- 40% of NJ Schools 335 Schools Certified
 - 292 Bronze,
 - 43 Silver

37 Digital Schools Stars

Municipal Program

460 Registered

• 81% of NJ municipalities

219 Certified

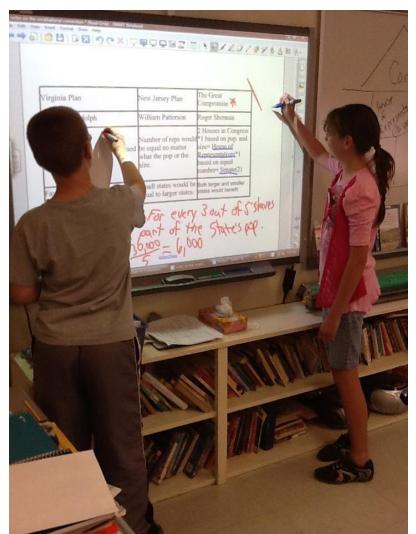
- 155 Bronze
- 64 Silver
- 1 Gold Star



Twitter: @SJ Program, @SJ Schools | Insta: sustainable jersey | LinkedIn: sustainable-jersey Facebook: SustainableJersev

What is a Digital School?

A Digital School embraces the mindful implementation of effective digital learning and communication tools, resources, and practices, which is evident in its mission, culture, classrooms, and interactions with its stakeholders











- Continuing work of Future Ready Schools NJ
- Integrating and expanding SJ Schools actions
- Officially launched December 15, 2021
- Partnership with key stakeholders
- Supported by the <u>New Jersey LEE Group</u>



Sustainable Jersey Digital Schools



Future Ready Schools – New Jersey

- Was a powerful force for equity and progress in New Jersey
- Designed based on the Sustainable Jersey model
- Certified 259 schools from 76 districts as Future Ready
- Ceased operations in 2019

Transition to Sustainable Jersey Digital Schools

- 48 FRS-NJ Indicators integrated into
 - 12 new SJS Actions
 - 17 Existing SJS Actions
- FRS-NJ certification counts towards Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification

Partners & Funders

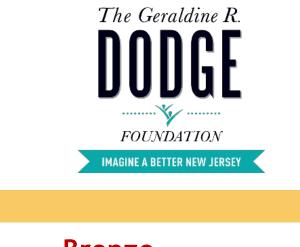
Program Partners





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SOUTH JERSEY

Interested in becoming a Corporate Sponsor?

Click <u>here</u> or our contact Development Director, Joe Grillo at 908-406-1901 or email grillog@tcnj.edu.





Program Goals

- Provide guidance and resources to improve learning
- Help prepare students for college and careers in an evolving digital world
- Advocate for mindful and sustainable implementation of digital tools, resources, and practices
- Foster a culture in which authentic and personalized digital learning thrive



Why Participate?



- Assess and validate existing practices
- Clarify vision and develop common language
- Join community of learners
- Be recognized for accomplishments
- Access research, exemplars, and grants
- Self pace and choose what works best for you
- Improve sustainable practices during the pandemic and beyond





- Register district and school(s)
- Form a Green Team
- Complete minimum 7 of 12 digital schools actions
- Complete 3 student learning actions that use digital learning strategies
- Complete 1 school culture and climate action that includes digital learning strategies
- Complete SJS certification (includes SJDS points) FRS-NJ certified schools eligible for additional points



2021 Digital Schools Stars



★ 37 schools in 9 Districts earned DS Star (95% success rate)

★ 14 schools in 4 Districts also certified for the first time

Districts with DS Star Schools	County
Essex County Schools of Technology	Essex
Florence Township School District (All Star Schools!)	Burlington
Franklin Township Public Schools	Somerset
Franklin Township District	Hunterdon
Hackensack School District	Bergen
Howell Township District (All Star schools and all Silver Certified!)	Monmouth
Long Branch Public School District	Monmouth
Mount Olive Township School District (All Star Schools!)	Morris
Spring Lake Heights School District	Monmouth

District with first-time certified schools



2022 Certification Cycle



January 13 – Initial Application Deadline
Late February – Reviewer Comments
March 29 – Second Submission
Early May – Reviewer Comments
June 15 – Final Application Submission
Early August – Certified Schools Notified
October – Certified Schools Celebration



Unity Charter School – 2020 Silver



Winslow Twp Middle School – 2020 Silver





Want More Information?

 Individual Digital Schools Technical Assistance sessions available by request (coccol@tcnj.edu)



2021 Certification Cycle

Action Types

Digital Schools Program

Action Development

Program Updates

Search Participating Districts, Schools & Approved Actions

Resources

Download Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet

The SJS Platform

www.sustainablejerseyschools.com/actions

Certification Actions

Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions are designed with flexibility to meet the varying needs of all districts and schools. Successful completion of actions contributes points towards <u>Bronze or Silver certification</u> and <u>Digital Schools Star</u> recognition. Actions are organized within action categories and some actions have <u>special attributes</u> that are important to be aware of when pursuing certification.

When you click on one of the boxes below only the actions with that attribute will be open in the action list. For example, if you click on Digital Schools the actions that open are those that could count toward Digital Schools Star recognition. Be sure to Clear Search before you click on a different box.

Search Actions

Type in a word(s) to identify all actions with that word(s) in the title

Click a box below to open all the actions with that attribute. Clear Search before selecting a different box.





Digital Learning Domains



LEADERSHIP

★Commitment to Digital Learning
★Community Engagement
★Professional Development
★Equitable Access

LEARNING

★Authentic Applications
★Digital Citizenship
★Personalized Learning
★Professional Growth

TECHNOLOGY

★Data Safety and Security
★Device Management
★Infrastructure
★Support for Teaching &
Learning





- ★ Authentic Applications
- ★ Digital Citizenship
- ★ Personalized Learning
- ★ Professional Growth



Authentic Applications

Authentic approaches to teaching provide opportunities for students to "learn by doing" and to apply content, skills, and knowledge to new and complex challenges. An authentic pedagogy is one in which students identify and explore impactful issues and iterate creative solutions. Such activities are vital for students to develop critical thinking, empathy, and problem solving strategies, transferable skills that are of lifelong benefit. According to Grant Wiggins, authentic products and performances should "have meaning or value beyond success in school" (Frey et al, 2012). It is likely that most curricula currently have authentic learning components as such applications have increasingly become a focus of the NJ Student Learning Standards. Educators may also be familiar with related approaches, like *active learning, inquiry-based learning, and problem-based learning.*

Wherever digital learning tools are being used, educators should maximize their advantages to go beyond traditional classroom activities and facilitate authentic learning. For example, students can explore, interact, and even modify virtual Facebook: SustainableJersey | Twitter: @SJ_Program, @SJ_Schools | Insta: sustainable_jersey | LinkedIn: sustainable-jersey





Authentic Applications: Spotlight

George L. Catrambone Elementary Long Branch Public Schools

"As a school, we define authentic learning as making connections for our students that are meaningful, applicable, and relevant in today's growing and changing world."





George L. Catrambone Elementary School

This action had four requirements. <u>Requirement 1</u>. Summarize the needs identified to implement this action based on:

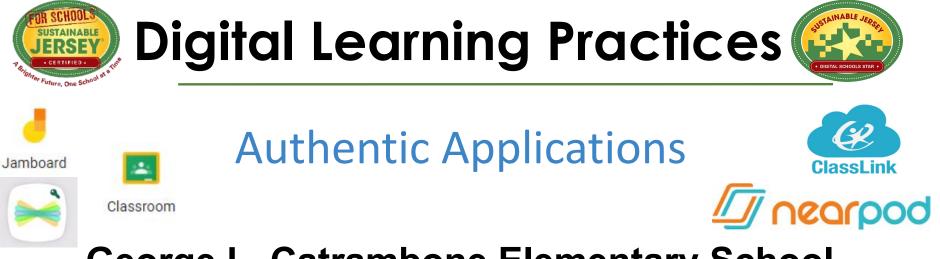
- student performance data
 - curriculum documents
- school professional development plan
 - staff and student surveys
 - technology plan
 - instructional evaluation framework
 - budgeting





George L. Catrambone Elementary School

Schools needed to be prepared for the 2020-21 school year, facing so much uncertainty amidst a global pandemic. All learning took place on a digital platform at the beginning of the school year. In order to gather all of this data, a team work approach was needed. Identifying the data needed was our first step, which in turn identified where this data could be found, and which individuals at the GLC school could help. Data from math and ELA assessments was needed, as was data from surveys which were sent to student families, staff, and students with regards to the modified learning environment taking place this school year. The need for continuous professional development for staff and peer collaboration was identified and addressed, in order to ensure academic success for all students. All of this data was compiled into a google document specifically for requirement 1.

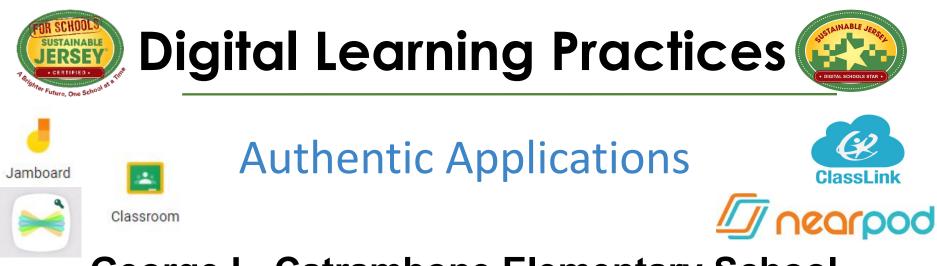


George L. Catrambone Elementary School

<u>Requirement 2</u>- Summarize the steps to be taken to address the needs identified above to facilitate implementation of this action. Areas of action should include:

- professional learning and support
- curriculum and lesson planning
- development of authentic student opportunities (ex. competitions, camps, internships)
- resource acquisition

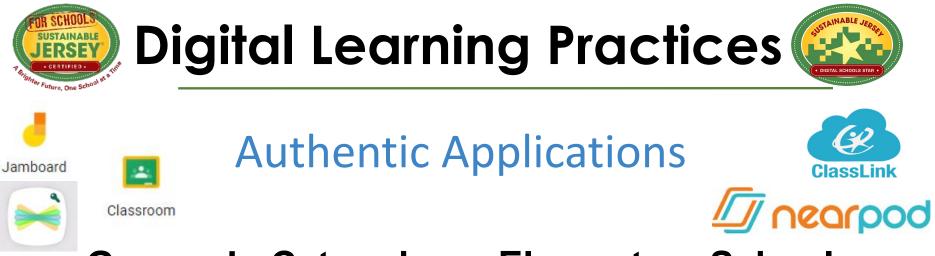
For requirement 2, the above information was compiled into a google document and attached to the application. All professional development that took place in the 2020-21 school year was listed, as was all of the authentic learning opportunities that took place, such as virtual debate club and competitions, the GLC green team, powersave club, and future leaders club. One innovative professional development practice that occurred at GLC was called "What's Up Wednesdays" in which a staff member (or pair of staff members) presented a webinar via zoom, which featured an educational online platform they wanted to share with their peers. The presenters were then available as "resident experts" to help their fellow teachers with any questions they might have with regards to using that platform.



George L. Catrambone Elementary School

<u>Requirement 3</u>-Provide a list of the 5-10 most effective and widely used digital learning tools, resources, and/or strategies and how the school uses or intends to use them to create more authentic learning opportunities for its students.

Here at the George L Catrambone School we have used a variety of digital learning tools across our K-5 grade levels. Digital tools have important advantages for making processes more consistent, secure, efficient, and effective. With such effective digital platforms, teachers were able to monitor student progress. <u>An explanation and list</u> of effective digital platforms here at GLC explains how we as a school have implemented the programs this year both remotely and virtually.



George L. Catrambone Elementary School

<u>Requirement 4</u>-Summarize your progress to date in implementing this action, such as training on authentic learning, new activities and opportunities developed, and resources accessed/acquired that foster authentic application of digital tools.

At the GLC School, the use of technology was of great importance for the academic success of our students. Students and staff found themselves in an unprecedented situation of mandatory virtual learning, due to the COVID pandemic. Our school and district worked diligently to identify and use digital platforms which would be appropriate for our students and staff. The platforms mentioned in the previous slide, along with professional development opportunities, peer collaboration, and creative, innovative learning activities have provided our students with the necessary tools to achieve academic success. The GLC School has provided a plethora of professional development training to it's staff, in various ways this year. What's Up Wednesdays allowed teachers to train their peers in the use of various online platforms, which were used both online and in-person. Virtual, weekly, PLC's gave grade level teams the opportunity to share ideas, knowledge, and information about lesson planning, assessment, and the online platforms we are using. Teachers were able to share and review diagnostic assessment information and collaborate on future instruction and the tools we would utilize to do so.

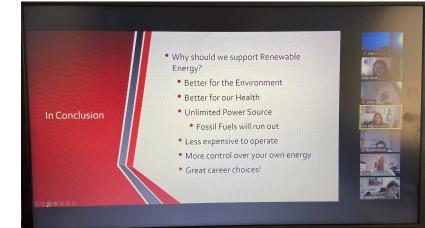




George L. Catrambone Elementary School

Authentic Learning Opportunities through Virtual Clubs









George L. Catrambone Elementary School







George L. Catrambone Elementary School





Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship requires a positive school environment that supports students in using technology responsibly. School districts provide professional development and guidelines to teachers on the responsible use of technology and online digital tools. Teachers guide students to use the internet safely, protect their privacy and digital footprint, handle cyberbullying and maintain their self-awareness. Curriculum supports strong digital communication and collaboration skill development. Students are able to identify and evaluate information found through internet research and understand how to safely navigate a digital world.





Digital Citizenship

- 1. Description of Implementation for Digital Citizenship
- 2. A copy of the digital citizenship plan, or equivalent, that includes vision and goals demonstrating the district's commitment to digital citizenship.
- 3. A copy of or evidence of the training provided to staff regarding integration of digital citizenship into curricula.
- 4. Samples of digital citizenship being integrated into curriculum.
- 5. A copy of the AUP (Acceptable Use Policy), student handbook or other digital citizenship policy document that is distributed to students and/or parents related to digital citizenship, including social media and cyberbullying policies.





Digital Citizenship: Spotlight

Essex County Schools of Technology

"Our Digital Citizenship curriculum begins with our required incoming 9th Grade Summer Enrichment program, where all incoming 9th graders participate in 8 weeks of summer instruction in english, math, science, and digital citizenship. Digital Citizenship is then embedded into the curriculum across subjects and especially in ELA relating to media literacy."





Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship Interactive Lessons For Summer Enrichment Teacher Training 6/18/20 Interactive Lessons Teacher Teacher





Digital Citizenship

https://www.commonsense.org/education/





Personalized Learning

The ultimate goal of a P-12 education is to help students develop both the skills and motivation to become independent lifelong learners. Educators have long realized that a one-size-fits-all approach inevitably leaves some children behind, particularly as students come increasingly from more diverse backgrounds. The science of cognitive development has shown that how learners construct meaning is largely influenced by their prior knowledge and experiences (Arends, 1998). Personalizing learning is based on this understanding- that each child thinks differently and has different needs, including special needs based on learning disabilities, English fluency, and previous success in school (see <u>Equitable Access to Digital Learning</u> action).

Personalizing learning approaches provide students with choice, flexibility, involvement, and even leadership. Students become more responsible for shaping their own experiences to deepen their understanding of academic subjects. With the support of teachers, counselors, and parents, each student creates an evolving personalized learning plan, with which they set progress Facebook: SustainableJersey | Twitter: @SJ_Program, @SJ_Schools | Insta: sustainable_jersey | LinkedIn: sustainable-jersey





Personalized Learning: Spotlight

Mountain View Elementary School Mount Olive Township Schools

"Each teacher encourages students to create personalized goals, self-monitor growth, and [identify] their own learning process. Teachers allow for personalized learning through small group instruction, modifying curriculum, and tailoring materials to meet individual needs."







Digital Schools



- Wide ranging self-reflection
- □ Internal evaluation process
 - Rubrics specific goals & criteria

☐ Tremendous support & Guidance

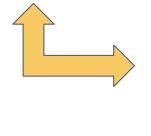




Mount Olive Township School District 🗓

LEARNER PRIORITIES							
Critical Thinking C		ollaboration	Innovatio	n	Self-Regulation		
2019-2023 DISTRICT GOALS							
1. Provide the most innovative and safe learning environment possible for the entire District community.	2. Institutionalize personalized learning to provide ALL learners with rigorous and relevant academic experiences that produce Future Ready graduates.	3. Establish and enhance social-emotional learning programs to develop the "EQ" of ALL learners.	4. Recruit, develop, and retain the most highly skilled and diverse workforce to serve the entire District community.	5. Embrace multimed communication strategies to engage entire District community in celebrating its succes and advancing strate initiatives.	transparency, and fiscal ne responsibility of Distric programs and operations.		





2. Institutionalize Personalized Learning to provide ALL learners with rigorous and relevant academic experiences that produce future ready graduates.



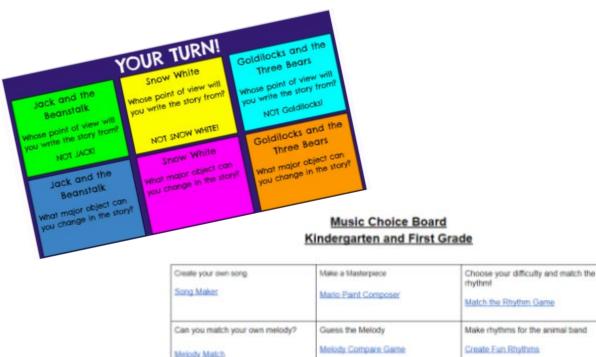


Personalized Learning

Mountain View Elementary School

1.) Choice Boards

Choice Board (activities in blue are available online)					
Magnetic Poetry -create a poem using the magnetic words, write it down and illustrate it	Poetry Imagery ~using the various objects, pick one to write a poem using figurative language	Online Slides Poetry Choice Board Sildes Assigned on Google Classroom			
Poet Search Explore the websites of the following poets Kenn Nesbill Shet Silverstein Jack Prelutsky	BrainPop •go to BrainPop.com search Poetry, watch the video (UN: moms Password: moms123)	Flocabulary ~assigned through Google Classroom - watch video and complete the assigned activities ~There are two choices to Flocabulary videos			
Storyline Online Listen to any of the following on Storyline Online Somebody Loves You, Mr. Histon To Be a Drum Khots on a Counting Rope Lotus and Feather	Pockets of Poetry Sort ~Sort the examples of figurative language. Hand in sheet when you are done.	Poetry Elements Nearpod ~Complete a quiz and pla memory reviewing differen poetry elements CBCk here to syour nearpo			







Personalized Learning Mountain View Elementary School

2.) Digital Tools







Personalized Learning Mountain View Elementary School 3.) Digital Learning Platforms & Tools

Students Using ST Math

Ourrently Playing

Today

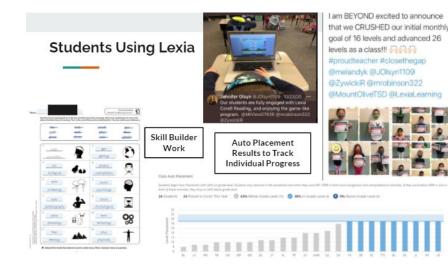
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is Week	80	5 🔹	0.64 🗃
it Week	11 0	25 🛳	2.3 🖬
orage Week	24 3	26 🛳	1.06 🗃
Progress	33%		











Personalized Learning Mountain View Elementary School

<u>1st Grade Example of a Student Personalized Learning</u> Plan

MV PERSONALIZED SUCCESS PLAN

Mount Olive School District is dedicated to ensuring that we personalize learning for every student while ensuring that all students attain the skills, knowledge, and dispositions required for success in their lives. A personalized success plan is tailored to you – your values and priorities and can provide a roadmap to success.

4.) Personalized Success Plans

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT GOALS

Academic Goal: I will learn my numbers to 120. *New Goal: Read at least 16 books this year.

Wellness Goal: I will exercise more and drink more water.

Social Emotional Goal: I will listen to the teacher.

Love of Learning Goal: I will research the life cycle of flies because it is a topic I am interested in.

What do I need to do to achieve my goals? I will practice and work hard everyday.

I will know I have met my goal when... I can teach myself.





Personalized Learning **Mountain View Elementary School**

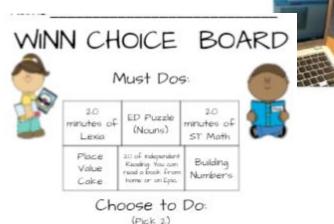
2nd Grade - WINN Time

Lesson Plan:

WINN time is built into our schedule for grades K-5. It stands for What I Need Now. During this time period students and teachers work together to allow the students work on what they need now. Students could be working in a small group on reinforcement or enrichment work with a teacher, working on a blended learning platform or independent work choices.

Standards: Standards vary according to what each student needs at that time.

5.) WINN (What I Need Now)



Reading

Reopanse For a

FICTION book

Pixel Art

Sentence

Writina

Freckle



Professional Growth & Collaboration

Educator professional growth is where the rubber of professional learning planning meets the road of student achievement. Schools must ensure that all educators, including administrators, have high quality, ongoing, and personalized opportunities to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively implement digital learning techniques and resources, both as tools for productivity and to support student success in the Digital Era. How education professionals make use of these opportunities is even more important than providing them. Ideally, the yearly development of each teacher's state-required Individual Professional Development Plan is a collaborative process between teachers and supervisors and among school, grade band, and content level peers that provides timely and relevant professional learning opportunities. Teacher growth must both support their individual professional needs and address district and building goals.

Schools should foster a culture and climate that supports and encourages faculty and staff to create and participate in Personal Learning Networks (PLNs). Virtual opportunities (i.e. social media tools, blogs) and face-to-face opportunities (i.e. <u>CoffeeEdu</u>, <u>EdCamps</u>, technology conferences) provide space





Professional Growth: Spotlight

Hackensack Middle School

"All educators have been provided necessary tools and opportunities to develop effective, engaging, and relevant lessons for the 21st century learner utilizing digital learning skills and digital literacy. Staff members have access to a directory of digital platforms used throughout the district, which also includes tutorials for the uses and implementation of these platforms to best fit the needs of our student population; many of which have been created by our own staff members."





Professional Growth

Hackensack Middle School

1. Implementation Statement - explain how your school supports/encourages digital learning

Hackens	;					
Platforms for Distance Learning						
Pre-School	Elementary	Middle School	High School			
Zoom	Zoom	Zoom	Zoom			
Canva	Google Classroom	Google Classroom	Google Classroom			

2. Staff PDPs highlighting a commitment to digital learning

		to Follow Them		
3	Ă¢Â¿Â¢ increase the incorporation of online writing tools in my writing workshop as well as increasing student use of technology for learning in my classroom	tailored to English Language Learners population in order to increase writing in the content knowledge of Social Studies.	Implement a variety of effective writing instructional strategies, including the use of technology, so that students can engage in complex and meaningful discussions to produce high coherent writing pieces.	6/24/202





Professional Growth

Hackensack Middle School

3. Document certificates or evidence of professional learning opportunities.







Professional Growth

Hackensack Middle School

4. Showcase virtual collaborations

Ms. Kalman's Class @HackensackSTEM · Nov 30, 2020

Last week, our 6th graders had a belated #HispanicHeritageMonth guest speaker, Dr. Melissa Gonzalez. She spoke about being a 1st generation immigrant pursuing medicine and working as a woman of color during COVID.



0 2

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Her best advice: Read!

#WomenInSTEM





Tara Leibman @TaraLeibman

Replying to @missalissanyc

 Q_1

A2: My school has started to take a closer look at mentor texts (and all texts) thru the lens of whether most represent our student population. #tcrwp

Q2: How have you thought differently about mentor texts to

17

7:45 PM · May 5, 2021 from Woodcliff Lake, NJ · Twitter for iPhone

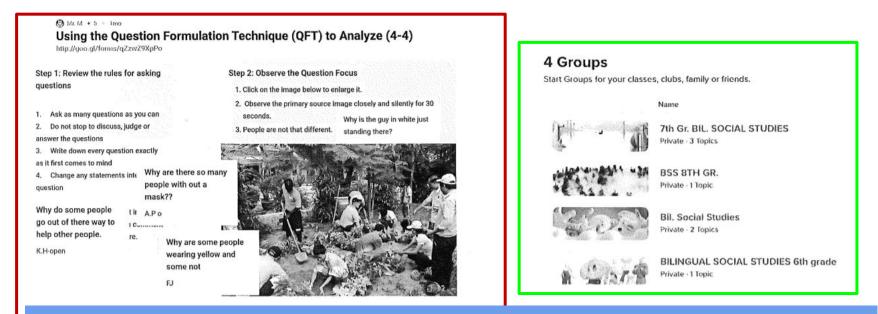




Professional Growth

Hackensack Middle School

5. Applied professional learning



Using PADLET and FLIPGRID in class after teacher professional development





Upcoming Opportunities





- All NJ Students Grades 6 12 eligible
- Teachers register and integrate the Climate Challenge into their educational activities
- Student teams complete a school or community-based climate action project and create a short digital story video.
- Deadline April 1, 2022
- Virtual Educational Sessions Dec Feb



Student Climate Challenge



- Schools with winning submissions receive a grant to support their climate education initiatives: first place \$2,500, second place \$1,000 and third place \$500.
- Student team winners and their teachers are recognized at an June 2022 awards ceremony hosted by the Drumthwacket Foundation with the New Jersey Governor and First Lady.
- More information at: <u>http://bit.ly/NJStudentClimateChallenge</u>





Partners

- Drumthwacket Foundation
- Atlantic City Electric
- Exelon
- Sustainable Jersey for Schools



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grant Opportunity



<u>PSEG Grant Cycle</u>

- Deadline 3/11/22
- \$10,000 and \$2,000 grants
- \$100,000 total
- Join Our Mailing List for more grant opportunities (see "Join" at bottom of all webpages)







Digital Schools Informational Webinars



- Action Specific Webinars
 - Dec 9 (Tech Access)
 - Dec 16 (Leadership)
 - See <u>Events Page</u> for more information and registration
- Individual Digital Schools Technical Assistance sessions available (<u>coccol@tcnj.edu</u>)







Digital Schools Website Tour



- Home Page <u>www.sustainablejerseyschools.com</u>
- <u>Digital Schools Landing Page</u>
- Fact Sheet
- <u>Actions</u>
- <u>Star Recognition Page</u>
- Webinar Recordings
- Digital Schools History
 - o <u>Transition Committee</u>
 - SJDS FRS-NJ Crosswalk
- <u>Remote Digital Learning Roadmap</u>
- <u>Sign Up Page</u>

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Sustainable Jersey for Schools Program Partners



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Sustainable Jersey Digital Schools (

Q&A





The recorded webinar and slides will be available at <u>https://www.sustainablejerseyschools</u> .com/resources/presentations/webina <u>r-recordings/</u>



Contact Information



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- Daniela Pitasi anpitasi@hackensackschools.org
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