



Successful Green Teams

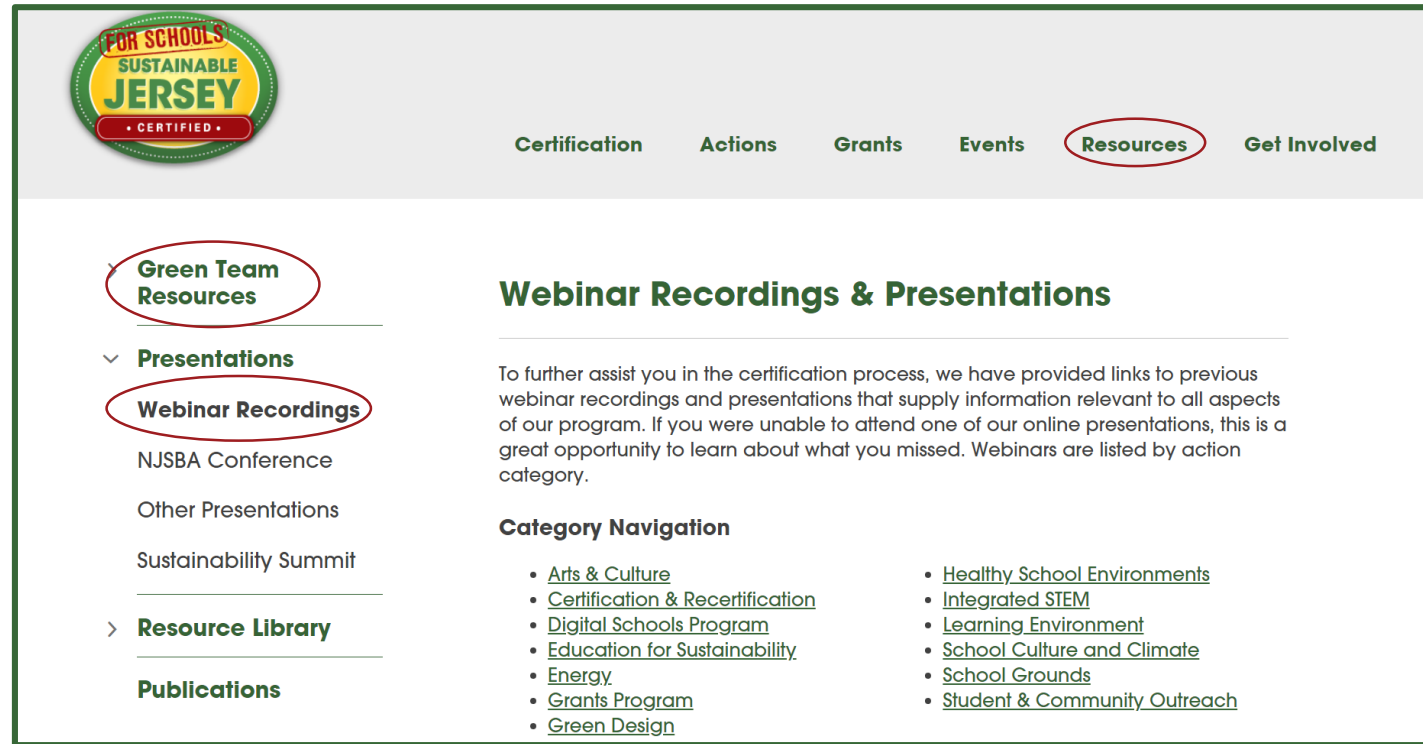
October 3, 2023

JoAnna Contarino, Program Coordinator
Erin Sharpe, Science Teacher, Cedar Creek HS
Lindsay Goodtitis, Principal, Franklin ES



Webinar Housekeeping

- All attendees are muted.
- Questions? Enter them into the Questions box or “raise your hand” and we will answer them at the end of the presentation.
- The recording and slides will be posted on the [Webinar Recordings page](https://www.sustainablejerseyschools.com/resources/webinar-recordings/) within a few days.



The screenshot shows the website for Sustainable Jersey Schools. At the top left is the logo: a green circle with 'FOR SCHOOLS' at the top, 'SUSTAINABLE JERSEY' in the center, and '• CERTIFIED •' at the bottom. To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for 'Certification', 'Actions', 'Grants', 'Events', 'Resources' (circled in red), and 'Get Involved'. Below the navigation is a sidebar with a dropdown menu. The 'Webinar Recordings' option is selected and circled in red. Underneath it are links for 'NJSBA Conference', 'Other Presentations', and 'Sustainability Summit'. Below that is a 'Resource Library' section and a 'Publications' section. The main content area is titled 'Webinar Recordings & Presentations'. It contains a paragraph explaining that links to previous recordings and presentations are provided to help attendees who missed them. Below this is a 'Category Navigation' section with two columns of links: 'Arts & Culture', 'Certification & Recertification', 'Digital Schools Program', 'Education for Sustainability', 'Energy', 'Grants Program', and 'Green Design' in the first column; and 'Healthy School Environments', 'Integrated STEM', 'Learning Environment', 'School Culture and Climate', 'School Grounds', and 'Student & Community Outreach' in the second column.

<https://www.sustainablejerseyschools.com/resources/presentations/webinar-recordings/>

Sustainable Jersey for Schools

A free, voluntary program that provides tools, training, and grants to New Jersey public schools to help them implement sustainability initiatives and achieve certification.



- Identifies **actions** to become more sustainable
- Provides **tools, resources, and guidance** to make progress
- Provides access to **grants** for schools and school districts
- Recognizes **accomplishments**
- Awards certification to individual schools but requires School Board and district level support

Agenda

1. What is a green team?
2. Green team requirements
3. Building your green team
4. Tips & tactics
5. Examples from the field
6. Q&A



What is a Green Team?

- First step in establishing a school sustainability program
- Such entities can go by any name, but the role is the same: lead and coordinate the sustainability activities of the school



Green Team Action

- Hold at least four meetings annually
- Letter signed by the principal that formally establishes the green team
- Green team annual report that highlights the accomplishments for the school year
- Invite union leadership to appoint two members



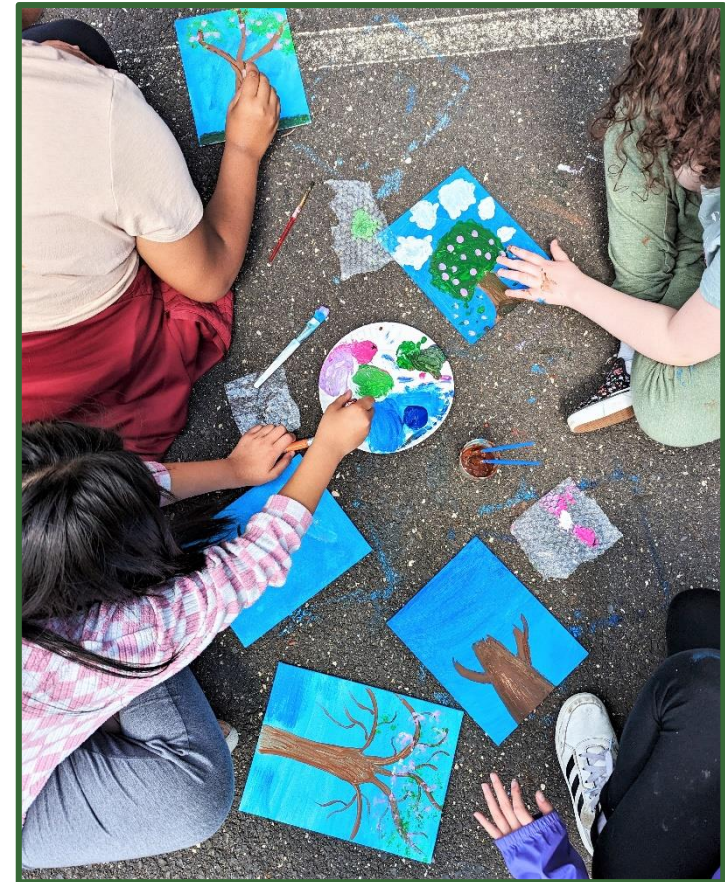
Green Team Action

- Additional requirements for district applicants:
 - At least one representative from each school registered in the program must be on the team
 - Establishment letter signed by the superintendent



Green Team Action

- Benefits of having a district green team
 - Better coordination between schools
 - If applied for on the district application the points are shared with all schools and all schools will meet the mandatory action requirement



Building your Green Team

- Match action categories with departments or personnel in your school community
- The goal is to choose a diverse team with varying expertise, interests, and experience

Food & Nutrition	Food Service Staff, Gardening Coordinators, Science Teachers & Supervisors
Energy	Facilities Director, Business Administrator
Digital Schools	Technology Coordinator, IT Staff
School Culture & Climate	Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Bully Specialists
Student & Staff Wellness	School Nurse, Wellness Council, Health & Physical Education Staff

Building your Green Team

Green Team Coordinator(s)

- Promotes teamwork and further decision-making
- Tracks adherence to plan, troubleshoots problems
- Examples: parent volunteer, college student intern, administrative intern or staff, environmental club advisor

Tips & Tactics

- Follow a consistent meeting schedule
- If reapplying for certification focus the first meeting of the school year on actions that are expiring/expired and create your plan
- Develop a strategy for documenting activities
- Student leadership



Building your Green Team

Leadership Change

- Develop a succession plan
- Establish a general email account for consistent green team communications



Recruitment Tactics:

- Word of mouth
- Events
- Bring a friend
- School newsletter announcements
- Local media
- Public address announcements
- Green team table at school events
- Direct asks to key players

Building your Green Team

Retaining Membership

- Use an already established team as your green team (ex. School Wellness Council)
- Develop a “welcome packet” for new members
- Celebrate & acknowledge accomplishments





Cedar Creek High School

Egg Harbor City, NJ (Atlantic County)

Erin Sharpe | Science Teacher



Cedar Creek Green Team

Member	Action	NOTES	Implementation
VanEmden	Career Educational Technology sustainable teaching		
Haddock	Integrated unit in environmental science		
Haddock	Civic & Stewardship Volunteer Initiatives		implemented through time needed to finish in March
Kouzoukas / Londono	SEL		
Art & sustainable teaching	look to art club, hoban no longer does the project from 3 years ago, we may not get credit for club work??		
Zucal	Engineering & sustainable teaching		
Mathematics & sustainability	(was a statistics class 3 years ago)	Google Slides Project: Global Temperature Changes, 2023, S. Brown may be best at the supervisor level	
Art arts offered			
Science sustainable teaching			
EIA sustainable lesson			
Health			
Social studies			
Technology			
Behavior Based Energy Conservation Programs- Empowered Schools program work with freshman			
Asthma Friendly School - Asthma training and IAQ training for school nurse and one facilities staff person			
Inclusive Environments Where All Can Thrive - staff training to support inclusive school culture and climate			
Professional Development for Sustainability		Brooks Scott training - need sign in sheet evidence of 5 participants from cchs	



Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District

Cedar Creek High School
Green School Resolution

- **Enlist Staff Members**
 - Provide short summaries
 - Allow flexibility for input
 - Share the required forms

- **Student Members**
 - Sustainability Internship
 - Green Team Club

- **District Support**
 - Stipend for coordinator
 - Duty coverage
 - Resolutions
 - Presentations to the Board



Franklin Township School

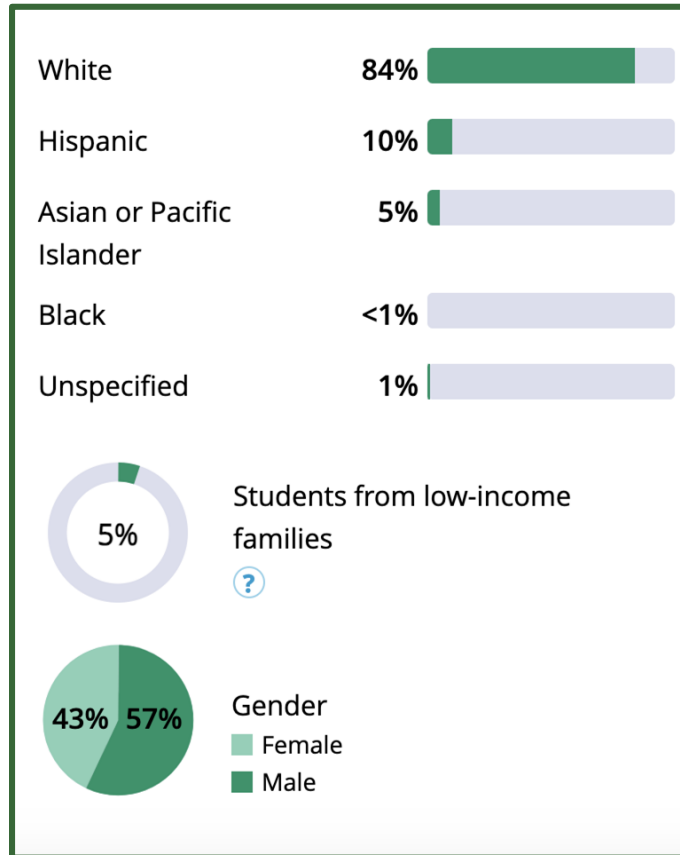
Quakertown, NJ (Hunterdon County)

Lindsay Gooditis | Principal



About Us

Students per teacher ?	10:1 State Avg. 11:1
Students per counselor ?	294:1 State Avg. 326:1
% of teachers with 3 or more years experience ?	95% State Avg. 89%



9/10 GreatSchools Summary Rating ?

8/10 Test Scores above average

9/10 Student Progress above average

Last updated: Aug 30, 2023

Green Team

Hardships, Membership/Retainment, and Meeting Times

- Formal Green Team Meetings
 - 1st Meeting Review
 - Action Plan for the year
- Collaboration Time in Schedule
- Faculty Meetings



Student Involvement

- Empowered Schools Team
- Boy Scouts- School Garden Project
- Potential Expansion of Student Involvement: Middle School Study Hall



Certification & Recertification

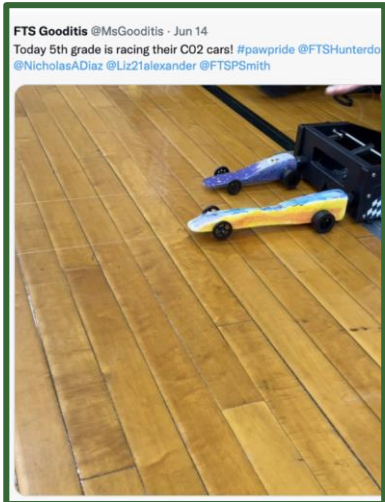


District Level Support

Superintendent, Dr. Nicholas Diaz & Board of Education

- District Policies
- Professional Development
- Student Offerings
 - Budgetary Planning







APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION IN 2024?

Submission Deadline:

- #1 January 12
- #2 March 22
- #3 June 13

bit.ly/SchoolsCertCycle

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANTS PROGRAM



Cycle Funded By:



**Sections 1-3 of the
Application are Due:
Monday, October 30**

Informational Webinar

An informational webinar was held on September 19 that provided an overview of the grants cycle, tips on crafting a successful proposal, and a walk-through of the online application. You can register to watch the webinar recording [here](#) and download the presentation slides [here](#).



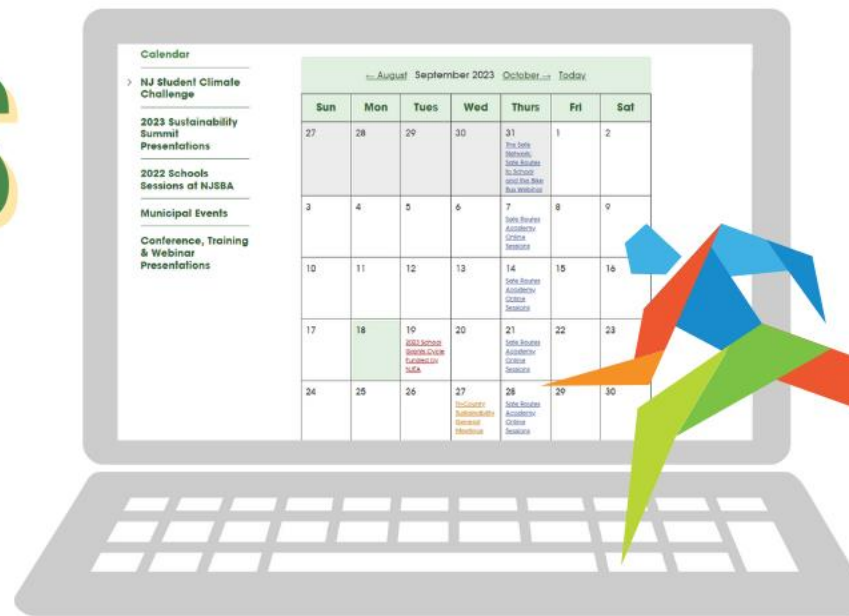


UPCOMING WEBINARS

FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY & ACTION UPDATES

OCT. 10, 2023

3:30 - 4:30 PM



LEARN FROM OUR
SCHOOLS PROGRAM STAFF



This webinar offers an overview of recently updated Education for Sustainability (EfS) actions in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program. Participants will receive a foundational lesson on the core concepts of Education for Sustainability and how to effectively develop lessons for classroom application through models and examples. The webinar will also present the latest updates to the EfS actions in the schools program, including a template for EfS lesson plans.



<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2596194777099945303>



NEW JERSEY

STUDENT CLIMATE CHALLENGE

FREE OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE TO NEW JERSEY PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 6 TO 12

TEACHER REGISTRATION OPENS

OCTOBER 10

Teacher registers student team who will complete a school or community project that addresses a cause or impact of climate change



STUDENT ENTRIES DUE

APRIL 10

Teams create a digital story video about the project and submits it by April 10, 2024



AWARDS CEREMONY

EARLY JUNE

Winners are recognized at an Awards Ceremony hosted by First Lady Tammy Murphy and receive grants to advance their climate education initiatives ranging from \$3,500 to \$500

bit.ly/NJStudentClimateChallenge



**Become a Lead Educator
for Climate Education!**

**JOIN THE NJ TEACHER TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP EXEMPLAR LESSONS
FOR THE NJ CLIMATE EDUCATION HUB**

The Hub launched in 2022 through a collaborative effort with SubjectToClimate, Sustainable Jersey, The TCNJ School of Education and NJ Audubon.

<https://bit.ly/STCTeacherTaskForceApp>

Schools within the service territories of PSE&G, NJNG, SJG or ETG are eligible



**empowered
SCHOOLS**

students generating change

AN ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY PROGRAM



The Empowered Schools program - formerly known as PowerSave Schools - provides free support and resources to educate students about energy efficiency and save money on your school's energy costs.

Learn
More [Here](#)

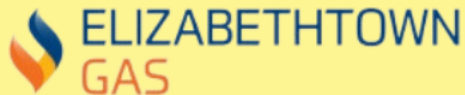
SUSTAINABLE JERSEY-PSE&G PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM TO SUPPORT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN SCHOOL FACILITIES

in 100% PSE&G Gas and Electric Territory
<https://bit.ly/SJSPartnersInEnergyEfficiency>



FREE ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

in Elizabethtown Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas,
and South Jersey Gas Service Territories
<https://bit.ly/EnergyTAforSchools>





Thank You

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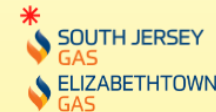
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Sustainable Jersey for Schools Underwriters and Sponsors

Program Underwriters



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