

FOR SCHOOLS

**SUSTAINABLE
JERSEY®**

**A Brighter Future
One School at a Time**

• CERTIFIED •

www.sustainablejerseyschools.com

ACTIONS FOR SCHOOLS

To become Sustainable Jersey for Schools certified, schools and districts must complete and document actions from this list. Certification is awarded to schools and is good for three years.



Mandatory **Green Team**
2 out of 13 PRIORITY ACTIONS
150 points across 6 of 22 categories



Mandatory **Green Team**
3 out of 13 PRIORITY ACTIONS
350 points across 8 of 22 categories



Bronze or Silver certified schools can earn Digital Schools Star Recognition

Action	Points
BOARD LEADERSHIP & PLANNING	
District Sustainability Policy 🏢	10
Professional Development for Sustainability 🏢	5 to 20
Green Enhancement of District Strategic Plans	10
Strategic Plan Implementation of Green Initiatives	10
School Community Asset Mapping 🏠	10
School District Foundation	10
CLIMATE MITIGATION & RENEWABLE ENERGY	
School Carbon Footprint 🏢	10
Buy Renewable Energy	10
Onsite Renewable Generation System - Geothermal 🏠	10
Onsite Renewable Generation System - Solar 🏠	5 to 45
DIGITAL LEARNING LEADERSHIP	
District Commitment to Digital Learning 🏢	10 to 15
Equitable Access to Digital Learning 🏢	10 to 15
Community Engagement 🏠	10
DIGITAL LEARNING PRACTICES	
Digital Citizenship 🏢	10
Digital Innovative Classroom # 1 🏠	10 to 15
Digital Innovative Classroom # 2 🏠	10 to 15
Authentic Application of Digital Learning Tools & Content 🏠	10 to 15
Personalized Learning & Growing Independent Learners 🏠	15
Professional Growth & Collaboration 🏠	15
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ACCESS	
Data Safety & Security Policy 🏢	10
Digital Device Life Cycle Management 🏢	10
Infrastructure 🏢	10
Support for Digital Teaching & Learning 🏢	20

DIVERSITY & EQUITY

Accessible Communications	10
Breakfast After The Bell	20
Diversity on District Task Forces & Committees 🏢	10

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Energy Efficiency for School Facilities 🏢	5 to 50
Behavior-Based Energy Conservation Programs 🏠	10
Energy Tracking & Management	10 to 20

FOOD & NUTRITION

Healthy Food Choices Beyond the Cafeteria	10
Promote Locally Grown Foods	10
School Gardens 🏠	10 to 30

GREEN CLEANING

Green Cleaning Policy & Plan	10
Green Cleaning Equipment	10
Green Cleaning Supplies	10
Green Cleaning Training & Education Programs	10

GREEN DESIGN

Green Building Policy 🏢	10
Design, Build or Certify New Construction & Major Renovations to Green Standards 🏠	10 to 50
Green Building Training	10

GREEN PURCHASING

Green Purchasing Policy 🏢	10
Recycled Paper Purchase	10
Sustainable Fleets 🏢	5 to 15

HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

Access to Healthy Water in Schools 🏠	20
Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement 🏠	10
Classroom Chemical Purchase, Storage & Disposal Policy	15
Classroom Cleanup Protocol & Practices	10
Integrated Pest Management - Education & Organic Lawn Care 🏠	10
Outdoor Air Quality Awareness Program	10
Radon Testing, Education and Mitigation 🏠	10 to 20

INNOVATION PROJECTS

Innovative Project #1 🏠	10
Innovative Project #2 🏠	10

Learn more at www.sustainablejerseyschools.com

INTEGRATED SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS & MATH (iSTEAM)

iSTEAM Planning & Implementation	15
iSTEAM Strategic Plan Indicators/iSTEAM Policy	10
iSTEAM Collaborative Units of Study	10 to 50
iSTEAM Professional Development Plan	5 to 20

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

All Arts Disciplines Offered	10
Curriculum Mapping	15 to 30
Outdoor Classroom	10
Student Participation in the Arts	10

SCHOOL CULTURE & CLIMATE

Inclusive Environment Where All Can Thrive	10
School Culture & Climate Needs Assessment	20
Social Emotional Learning Integrated Unit	10

SCHOOL GROUNDS

Biodiversity Audit & Management Plan	10
Biodiversity Project	10
Green Infrastructure Assessment & Plan	10
Green Infrastructure Installation	10

STUDENT & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Green Team	10 to 15
Community Education & Outreach	10
Civic & Stewardship Volunteer Initiatives	10
Enrichment Programs through Partnership	10
Green Challenges	10
Green Fair	10
"Green" Your Green Fair or School Event	10

STUDENT LEARNING

(One approved action in this category counts toward priority requirements)

Education for Sustainability Integrated Unit	10 to 50
Education for Sustainability, Pre K-3	5 to 25
Education for Sustainability, Grades 4-12 Arts	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Career and Technical Education	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 English Language Arts	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Health	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Math	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Science	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Social Studies	5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Technology	5

STUDENT & STAFF WELLNESS

School Wellness Council	20
Policies to Promote Physical Activity	10
Programs to Promote Physical Activity	10
Staff Wellness Program	10

STUDENT SAFETY

Safe Routes to School District Policy	10
Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety & Promotion Initiatives	10
Safe Driving Awareness Programs for High School Students	10
School Travel Plan for Walking & Biking	10

WASTE REDUCTION & RECYCLING

Waste Audit	10 to 20
Campaign To Reduce School Food Waste	10
Food Service Training & Best Practices to Reduce Food Waste	10
Food Recovery - Share Tables & Donation	10 to 20
Food Waste Recycling/Composting	15
Document Recycling Rates	10
Materials Reuse	10
Recycling Non-Mandated Materials	5 to 20



Priority action. Schools must complete at least two priority actions to achieve certification.



Mandatory action. The district or schools must complete the Green Team action to achieve certification.



District-only action. District actions earn points for all registered schools in the district.



School-only action.



Digital Schools action.

Visit www.sustainablejerseyschools.com for more information about the requirements for adding Digital Star Recognition to Bronze or Silver certification.



Parallel action in the Sustainable Jersey municipal certification program. Visit the participating town map at www.sustainablejersey.com to find contact information for your local municipal green team to explore working with them on this action.

Please note: Program actions and points may be subject to change. For the current official list of actions and points visit the website.





Sustainable Jersey's certified schools are national leaders in addressing key sustainability challenges. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills needed to understand these challenges, such as the impacts of climate change, they are building the next generation of climate literate leaders, including policymakers, scientists, teachers, entrepreneurs and more, who will develop solutions and lead the green economy.

We are facing a critical time in the mission to achieve a sustainable New Jersey. The earth's warming over the next decade is unavoidable. Rising sea levels, increasing temperatures, shifts in rainfall and storm patterns, and chronic flooding are a few of the changes impacting our economy, health, environment, and society. Once a seemingly abstract concept, climate change is a reality impacting schools.

The New Jersey Board of Education adopted Student Learning Standards in June 2020 incorporating K-12 climate change education across content areas. Sustainable Jersey for Schools supports districts and schools as they embrace the new standards and prepare students to address the causes and impacts of climate change today and in the future.

With more than 67% of school districts and over 1,100 schools in New Jersey registered, the Sustainable Jersey for Schools movement is bigger than ever. Don't miss your chance to:

SAVE MONEY. GET MONEY. IMPROVE THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.

- Access free guidance and technical assistance to reduce energy costs, cut waste and positively impact student and staff health and wellness
- Participate in free training workshops, webinars, and leadership meetings
- Apply for Sustainable Jersey grants

ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING. PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION. EMPOWER CLIMATE LEADERS.

- Promote energy efficiency through lesson plans, hands-on activities, and competitions
- Learn how to integrate climate change education into curriculum across content areas and grade levels
- Use your school and community as learning labs to implement place-based projects addressing the NJ specific climate change effects

PROGRAM FUNDERS

Thank you to all of our schools program Underwriters & Sponsors

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