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.

**BRONZE**

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

**SILVER**

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.*

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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*

### PROGRAM UNDERWRITERS

Gardinier Environmental Fund
New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (njcleanenergy.com)
State of New Jersey Department of Education *
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) *
njea New Jersey Education Association
PSEG Foundation

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#### BRONZE

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For more information or to join the Sustainable Jersey mailing list contact schools@sustainablejersey.com.

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