

**FRANKLIN
TOWNSHIP
SCHOOL**

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY

Presentation by Lindsay Gooditis
October 26, 2020



Today's Presentation

DISCUSSION POINTS

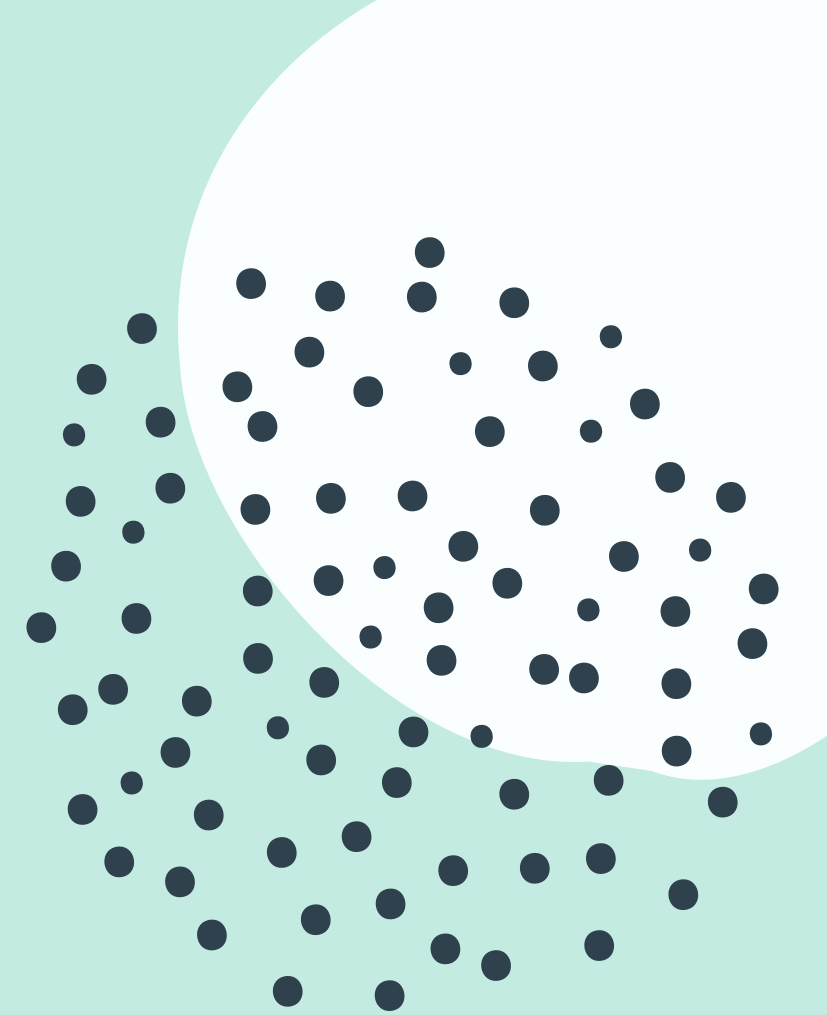
NJ Sustainable Schools Certification Overview

Levels of Certification

Action Items

Certification

Grant Opportunities





CERTIFICATION

This is a program for New Jersey public schools that want to go green, conserve resources and take steps to create a brighter future.

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFICATION

Overview



Levels of Certifications



The bronze level of certification requires:

- The establishment of a mandatory green team
- Implementation of **2 OUT OF 10** ★ priority actions
- Actions must be completed in **6 OF 19** categories
- A total of **150** points



The silver level of certification requires:

- The establishment of a mandatory green team
- Implementation of **3 OUT OF 10** ★ priority actions
- Actions must be completed in **8 OF 19** categories
- A total of **350** points

Action Categories

Board Leadership & Planning

Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy

Diversity & Equity

Energy Efficiency

Food & Nutrition

Green Cleaning

Green Design

Green Purchasing

Healthy School Environments

Innovative Projects

Integrated STEAM

Learning Environment

School Grounds

School Culture and Climate

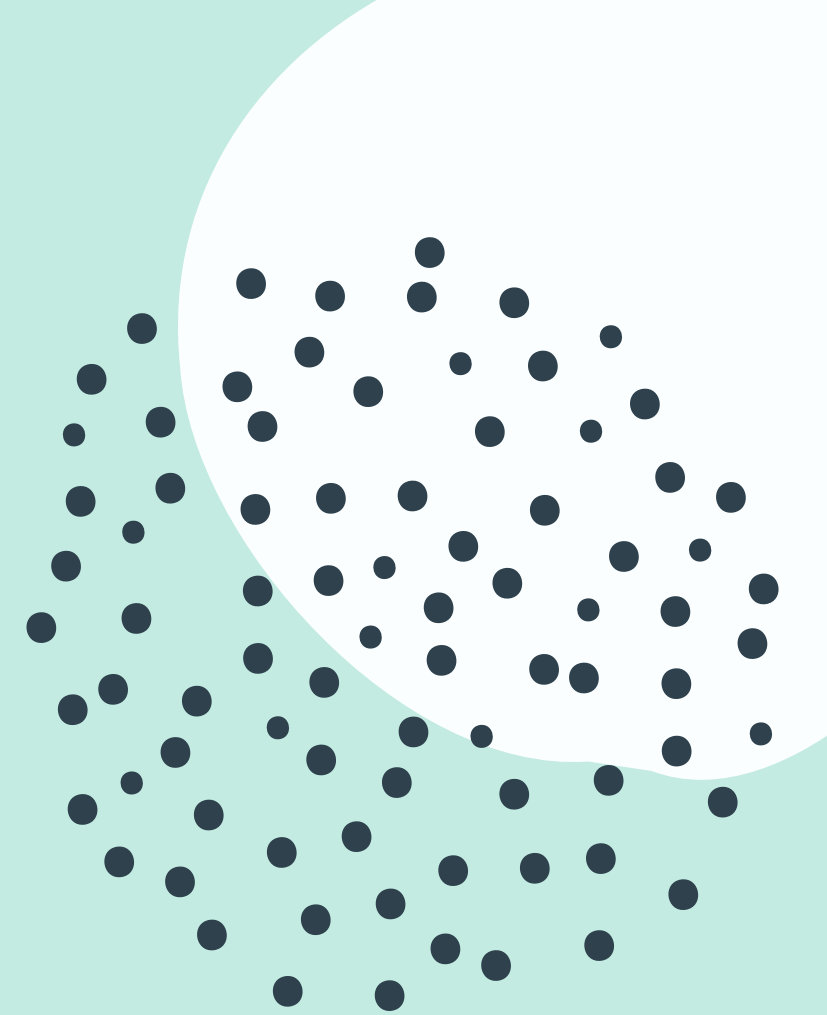
Student & Community Outreach

Student Learning

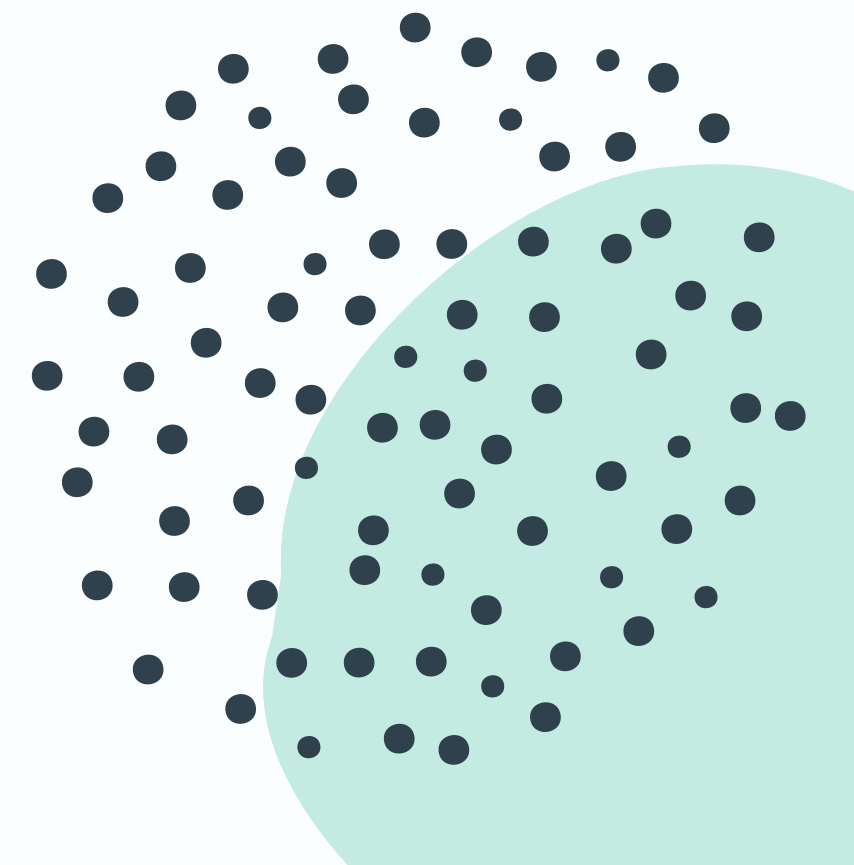
Students and Staff Wellness

Student Safety

Waste Management & Recycling



DISTRICT ACTIONS



Board Leadership & Planning



DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

The Board of Education adopted a district sustainability policy. Franklin Township School adopted this policy in 2017.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY

At Franklin Township School, 20 school personnel attended professional development. This includes school trainings, sessions at the NJ Science Convention, sessions at the Hunterdon County Ed Tech Fest, etc.

Diversity & Equity



THE PAW PRINT

THE OFFICIAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR FTS

WWW.FTSCHOOL.ORG/FTS
@FTSHUNTERDON #PAWPRIDE

MS. GOODITIS, PRINCIPAL

LGOODITIS@FTSCHOOL.ORG
@MSGOODITIS

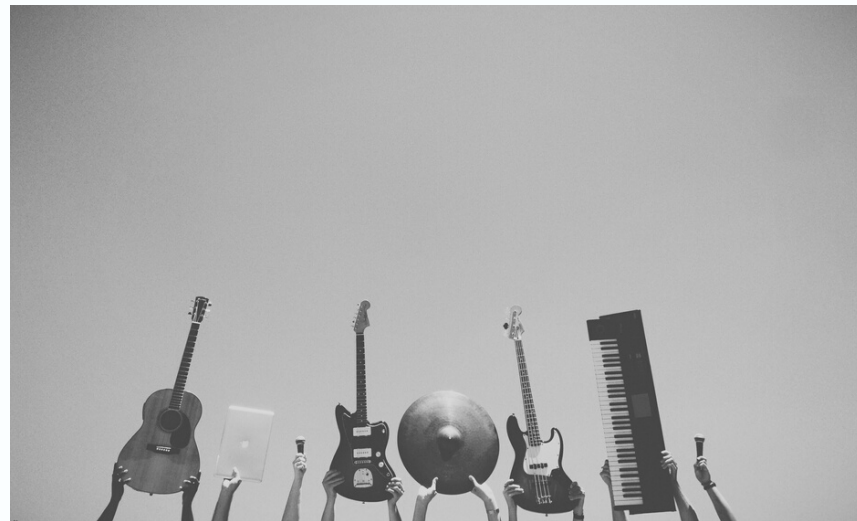
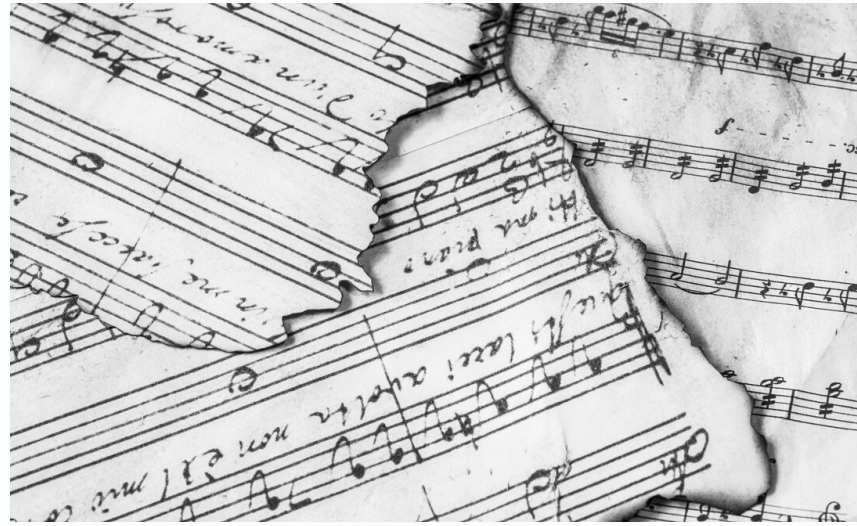
ACCESSIBLE COMMUNICATION

To improve communication:

- Google Translate was added to the website
- School Messenger sends texts and phone calls with alerts/reminders
- Social Media
- Genesis
- Access to staff emails
- Monthly PAC meetings
- Weekly school newsletter (The Paw Print)

Communication was assessed through the Parent Communication Survey in the Fall of 2019. Survey results showed that 63.2% of parents found the Paw Print to be most effective.

Learning Environment



STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS

Every student in elementary and middle school participates in music and visual arts classes each week. In addition, students in grades 4-8 are provided the opportunity to participate in band or chorus. Furthermore, Franklin Township School hosts 3 Young Audiences Arts for Learning Assemblies each year. Students at FTS participated in a partnership with Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) along with other schools in the area. Students performed a Bach cantata with RVCC in December 2019.

Student & Community Outreach



GREEN TEAM

A school-based, as well as a district level, Green Team was re-established at Franklin Township School in the Fall of 2019. During the 2019-2020 school year, members of the Franklin Township Green Team met on a monthly basis. The New Jersey Sustainability practices were a guide. One of the main goals for this year was to complete the application for Sustainable Jersey. This became a self-assessment process as the team went through each action. We have small initiatives such as promoting drinking water, partnering with the PTA to sell water bottles, and promoting material reuse. The major projects in progress are reviewing and adopting a new Wellness Policy, creating a wellness room, and implementing staff training on the Zones of Regulation.

Student and Staff Wellness



POLICIES TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Policies are adopted which shows the importance of physical activity.

Elementary and middle school students are provided with a minimum of 20

minutes of recess per day. During the

school day, the physical education

teacher provides videos for homerooms to complete a "morning stretch." In

addition, teachers provide brain breaks during instruction. The gymnasium, field,

and all purpose room are always being used by the students and community.

Physical activities that are offered through the school include the following

sports: Cross Country, Track, Volleyball, Co-ed Soccer, Boys and Girls

Basketball, Baseball, and Softball.

SCHOOL ACTIONS



Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy



ONSITE RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEM- SOLAR

Our ground solar system was installed at the school and services only Franklin Township School. The interconnection date was January 25, 2017. We have a purchase agreement for the panels over 15 years. The energy consultant is Clean Energy Ventures and the installation contractor is Advanced Solar Products (ASP)

Healthy School Environments



INDOOR AIR QUALITY

The Tool for School Checklists were utilized. A presentation was given to the staff, which increased their IAQ awareness and informed them about the reporting process if concerns arose. Furthermore, the presentation was posted on the school website to educate stakeholders.

ACCESS TO HEALTHY WATER IN SCHOOLS

We completed the Drinking Water Needs Assessment. Strengths included: numerous water access points, fountains and bottle filling stations are clean, and there is a Local Wellness/Nutrition Policy. Areas that need improvement includes: promoting drinking more water, updating the Local Wellness/Nutrition Policy to include the requirement of providing water during lunch and snack, and promoting reusable cups that can be used at the water fountains and bottle filling stations to reduce the amount of waste. The school is encouraging reusable containers. In order to promote drinking water, the Art Club created posters to drink more water. These posters were posted above bottle filling stations and water fountains.



Healthy School Environments (Part 2)



ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT

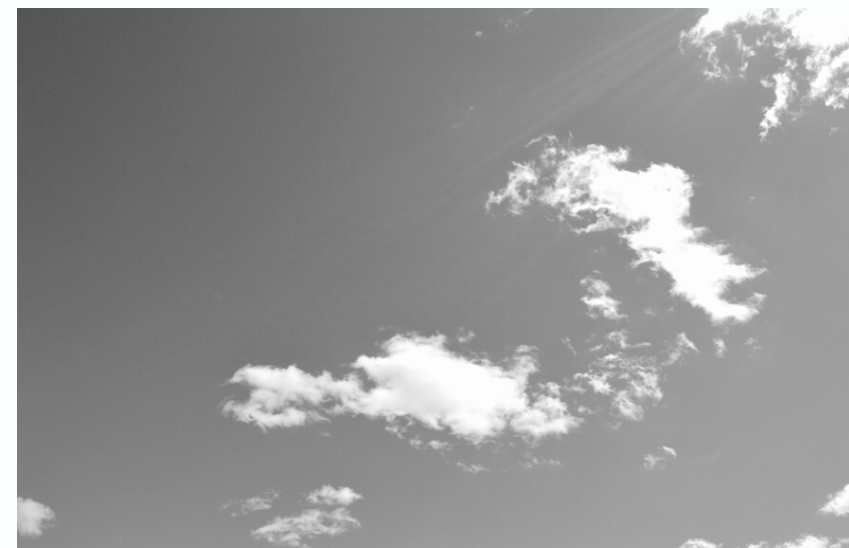
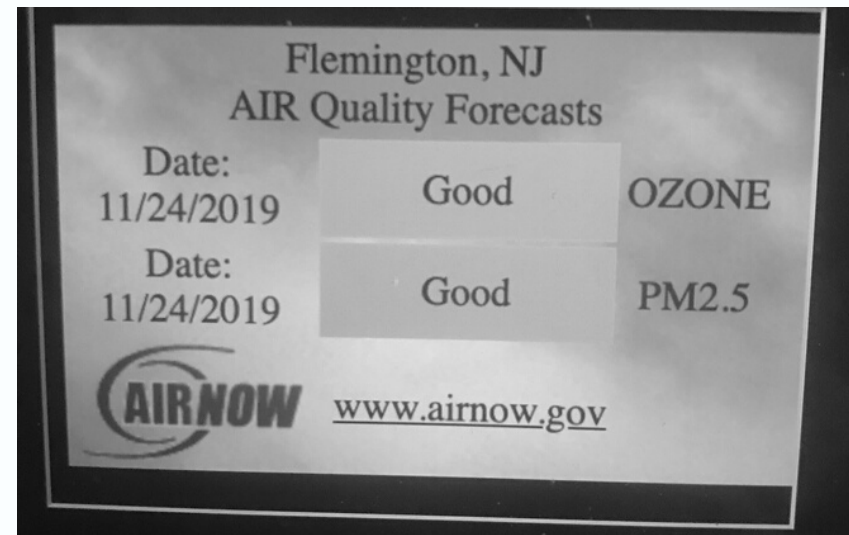
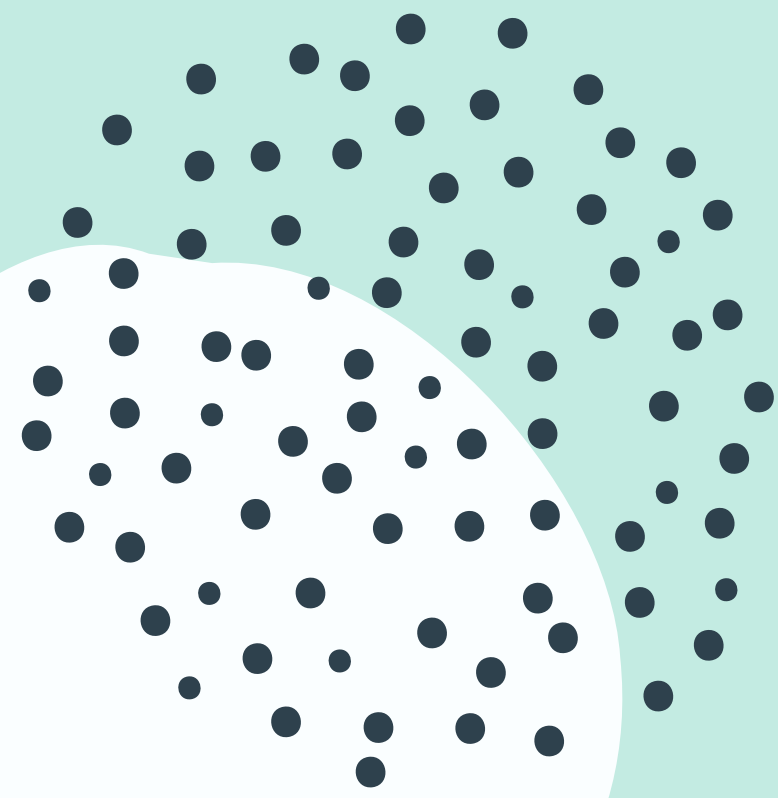
The school district signed an anti-idling pledge which was posted in the school newsletter, The Paw Print. "No-Idling" signs are posted at the parent drop off/pick up location. In addition, no idling pledge cards were handed out to families who use the parent pick up and drop off.



ASTHMA FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

FTS was awarded the PACNJ (Pediatric/Adult Asthma Coalition) Asthma Friendly School Award.

Healthy School Environments (Part 2)



OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY AWARENESS PROGRAM

A widget has been added to our website for all to access that lets all stakeholders know what the air quality is for that day. Education has been extended to the students, parents, staff, and community to better help them prepare for outdoor activities. The AirWidget was featured in the weekly Paw Print to notify stakeholders of the update on the website.

REPORTING PROCESS FOR INDOOR AIR QUALITY CONCERNS

The administration presented to the staff an Indoor Air Quality Awareness session. The staff reviewed the process for reporting Indoor Air Quality concerns.

Innovative Projects



INNOVATIVE PROJECT #1

At Franklin Township School, we transformed two hallways into interactive “sensory” hallways that allow students to hop, reach, crawl, etc. The sensory hallways provide movement breaks for our students and the hallways have been implemented in an effort to re-center students' focus. Therefore, promoting physical activity/health and wellness.



INNOVATIVE PROJECT #2

Two sensory rooms were created that are specifically designed to help students with sensory integration support.



iSTEAM



FTS Gooditis @MsGooditis · May 15
Off to the races!! For a cross curricular STEM and Art project, 5th graders designed CO2 dragster cars. Its the big day, where 5K versus 5J!
@FTSHunterdon



FTS Gooditis @MsGooditis · Jan 6
A member from GoHunterdon came to FTS to complete an introductory lesson for Junior Solar Sprints. Today, students in the 8th grade learned about fuel efficiency. #pawpride #juniorsolarsprints @FTSHunterdon @NicholasADiaz @FTSLembo @MrsZollinger



ISTEAM COLLABORATIVE UNITS OF STUDY

Staff understand the importance of iSTEAM collaborative units of study. Throughout a student's educational career at Franklin Township School, the student participates in numerous iSTEAM collaborative units. For example, in first grade students create an animal book. In fifth grade, students create and race a CO2 dragster and participate in an interview with a dragster racer and see the car in person. In eighth grade, students work with GoHunterdon to participate in lessons on Solar Sprints. These lessons lead to an event with other schools in the county.

School Culture and Climate

Social and Emotional Learning



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING INTEGRATED UNIT

Students at Franklin Township School participate in Social Emotional Learning Lessons. Students in grades 3-8 are scheduled for an Advisory Class with the School Counselor.

Student and Community Outreach



COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The Science Expo is open to students in grades PK-8 in the Franklin Township School District. This event allows students to gain a deeper understanding in a specific area of science, including sustainability, life science, energy, etc. In addition, students create a project and participate in a hands-on learning experience. There were more than 200 participants and spectators who visited the Science Expo during the 2018-2019 school year. In addition, the North Hunterdon High School Science Honor Society students attended the Science Expo and acted as judges.

Student and Community Outreach



FTS Gooditis
@MsGooditis

Thank you former FTS student, Kelly S., for coming to talk to the students at Franklin about the North Hunterdon Relay for Life. #pawpride @FTSHunterdon

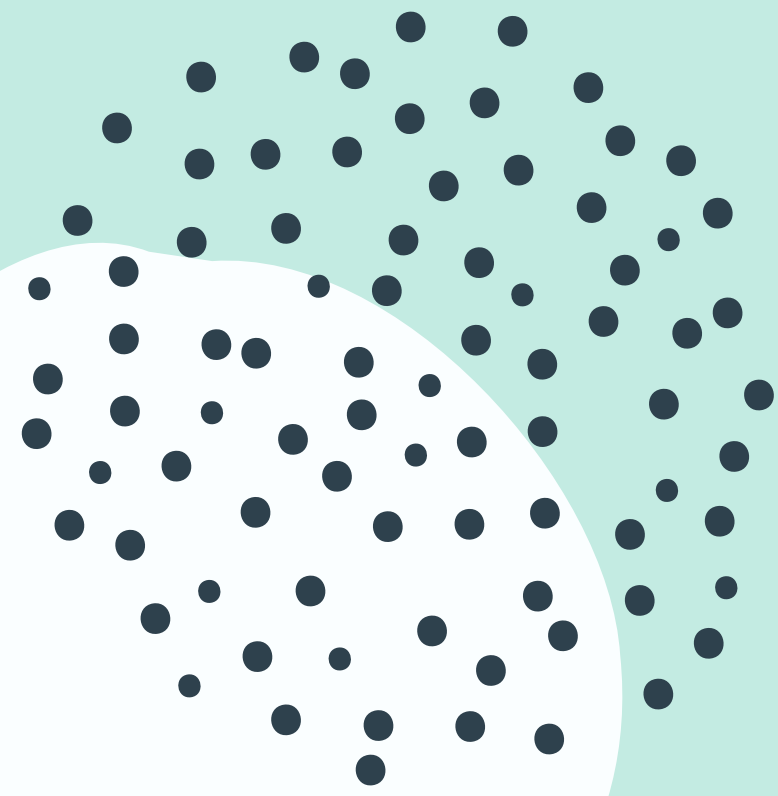


CIVIC AND STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEER INITIATIVES

1. Students in the 8th grade read A Christmas Carol in their English Language Arts Class. While reading, students learn and discuss poverty and the impact it has on the characters. While reading, students collect items for a food drive. A graph on the Student Council bulletin board shows what class is collecting the most items. In addition, students go to the play A Christmas Carol. On the way to the play, students stop at the NORWESCAP Food Bank where they bring items they collected during the food drive.

2. On February 25, 2020 a former Franklin Township student came to the school to talk to students in grades 5-8 about the North Hunterdon High School Relay for Life.

Student and Community Outreach



ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

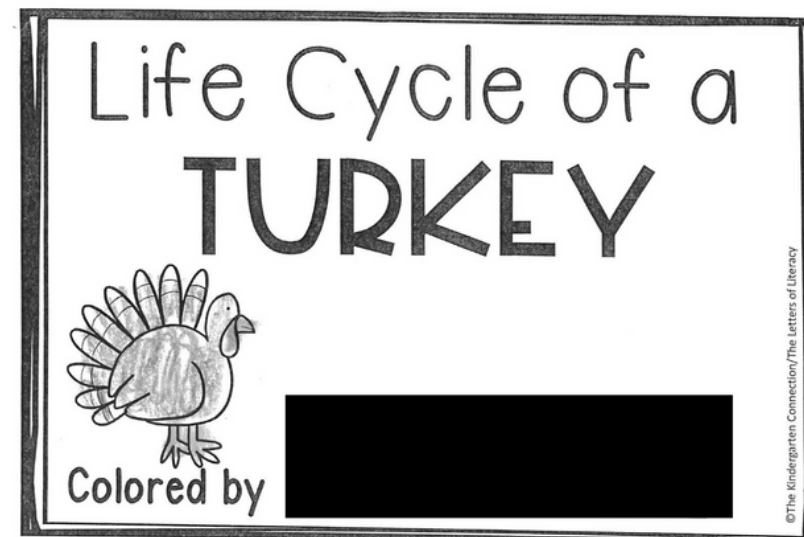
1. Franklin Township School has partnered with the Franklin Township Police Department to complete the L.E.A.D. (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) program with students in fifth grade.
2. Students in grades PK-8 participate 3 Young Audiences Arts for Learning Assemblies each year.

Student Learning



PK

Students worked as a class to create an upcycled item within the classroom. Students upcycled cardboard boxes into cars and completed play plans based on the Tools of the Mind curriculum. Students learned about the positive effects upcycling has on our environment.



KINDERGARTEN

Students learned about the classifications of living things and were able to differentiate between living and nonliving. As a class, students discussed the life cycle of a turkey. Hence, a turkey grows from an egg, to a chick, to a poult, to a turkey. Students were able to discuss the different parts of a turkey and completed a reader.

Student Learning



GRADE 1

In the first grade lesson, students picked an animal to watch. After observing the animal for at least five minutes, students read "What Matters," by Alison Hughes and Holly Hatam. This book was assigned to the students on Epic. After reading, students answered the question "What is one thing you can do to protect the Earth so that the animal you observed and YOU can live a healthy life?" After thinking about the answer, students wrote or recorded the answer to the question and drew a picture of one thing they could do to help our Earth. Students shared their answers on Seesaw.

Student Learning

Beach Cleanup with Kodable Hour of Code 2019 (2nd-3rd grade)

Brainstorm

1. Circle items that can cause harm to ocean life, then come up with two on your own.



2. With a partner, brainstorm two ways technology is used to keep oceans healthy.

- 1) The u shape captured the trash
- 2) The wind pushes it in different directions

Hour of Code Wrap-Up

1. Design a tool to help solve a problem facing ocean life today. Draw a picture or write a short description:

2. In order to help keep oceans healthy, I will:

clean up every piece of plastic



You did it!!

3. [Redacted] completed an Hour of Code with Kodable!

Use [Redacted] parent code to keep playing at [kodable.com](https://www.kodable.com)

Kodable

GRADE 2

Students in second grade participated in The Hour of Code. During this lesson, students discussed the impact of trash/plastics (pollution) on underwater life and the importance of ways to keep our oceans healthy, and how to protect marine life from pollution. Students completed a worksheet where they identified sources of pollution, technologies to address pollution, and what they can do to keep the beaches healthy. Students then coded on Kodable. Students used iPads to participate in a coding activity to clean up the beach.

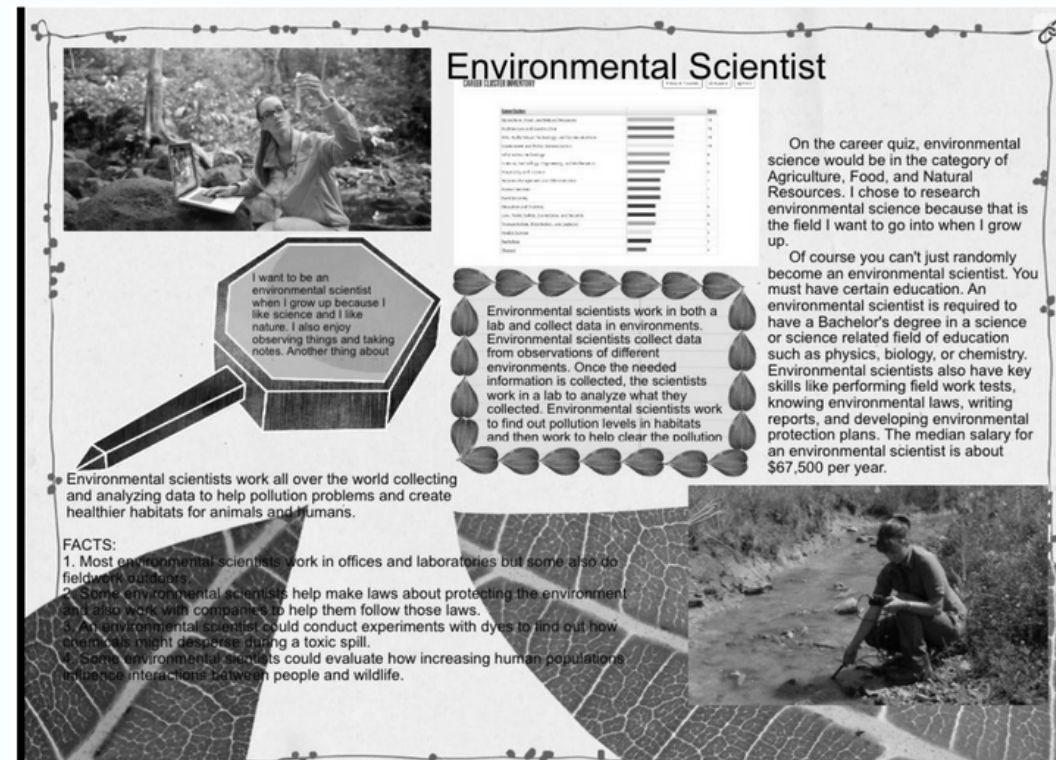
Student Learning



ART

Students used recycled materials to make Art and complete an Up-Cycle self portrait. Students utilized gray scale values of newspaper and personal descriptive words from newspapers to create their self portrait. Students were able to participate in a class discussion on the meaning of value, tone, tint, and shade. Student artwork was posted on Artsonia for family and community members to view and purchase.

Student Learning



CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

In the sixth grade STEAM class, students participate in a unit on Careers. During this unit, students participate in a class discussion on the different types of careers. Next, students take the Career Cluster Inventory provided on the NJCAN website (https://njcis.intocareers.org/jrsurvey/JrSurvey_intro.aspx). After taking the inventory, and understanding their results, students will create a graph of their results on google sheets and will then choose one career to research. Using the research, students will create a Glogster about the career and present their findings to the class.

Student Learning



Poetry

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Students in 6th grade Language Arts class discussed the three E's of sustainability and read an article "A Solution for Climate Pollution" from the New York Times Upfront magazine. Students answered questions about Copenhagen's efforts to increase sustainability and become carbon neutral. In addition, students read haikus from conservationhaiku.org website and commented on them. Sixth grade students then created their own haiku related to sustainability.

Student Learning



HEALTH

After reviewing the different food groups and nutrition, the teacher introduced the MyPlate website to discuss healthy choices. Students used the MyPlate website to play the game Blast Off. Students were able to choose food and drink choices for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks as well as exercises completed during the day. If students made healthy choices, the rocket ship departed. If the students made unhealthy choices, the rocketship would not blast off. Students then constructed drawing of examples of what healthy foods would fall into each category of the plate. Students included multiple options of each food group and drew a plate for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. This allowed students to describe healthy options for each meal.

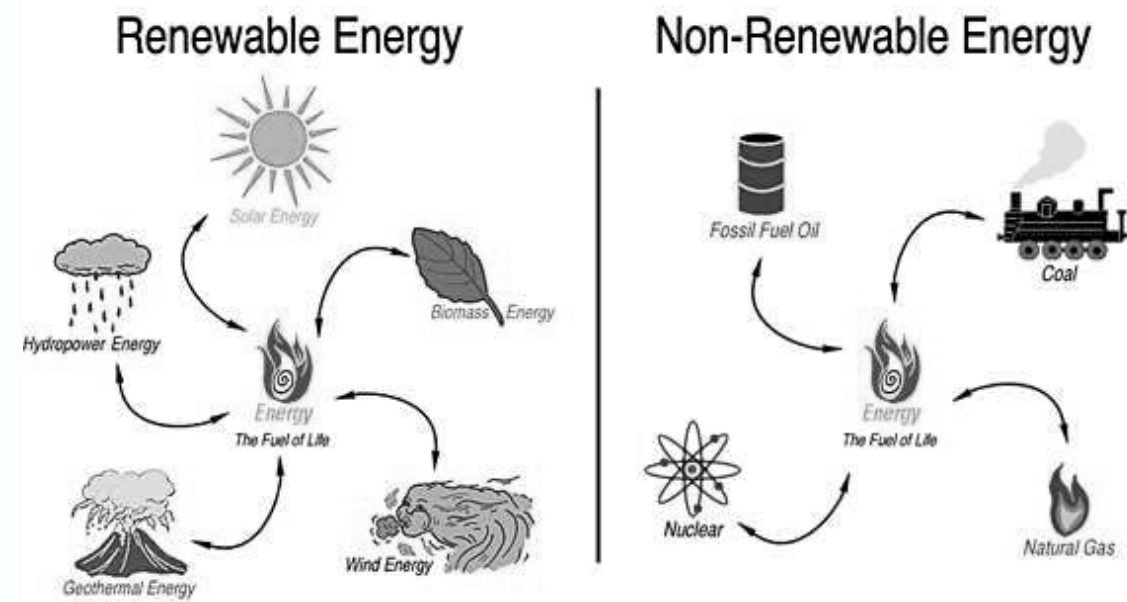
Student Learning



MATH

Students in 8th grade participated in a Camouflage Packing: Should We Be Concerned? activity. During this activity, students learn that the shape and size of an item's packaging is designed to make it look like the consumer is getting more. Students learn that camouflage packaging may make the product more appealing to the consumers. Students use the volume formulas to determine the percent of the containers volume wasted, determine the smallest possible container, and discuss the environmental consequences of camouflage packaging.

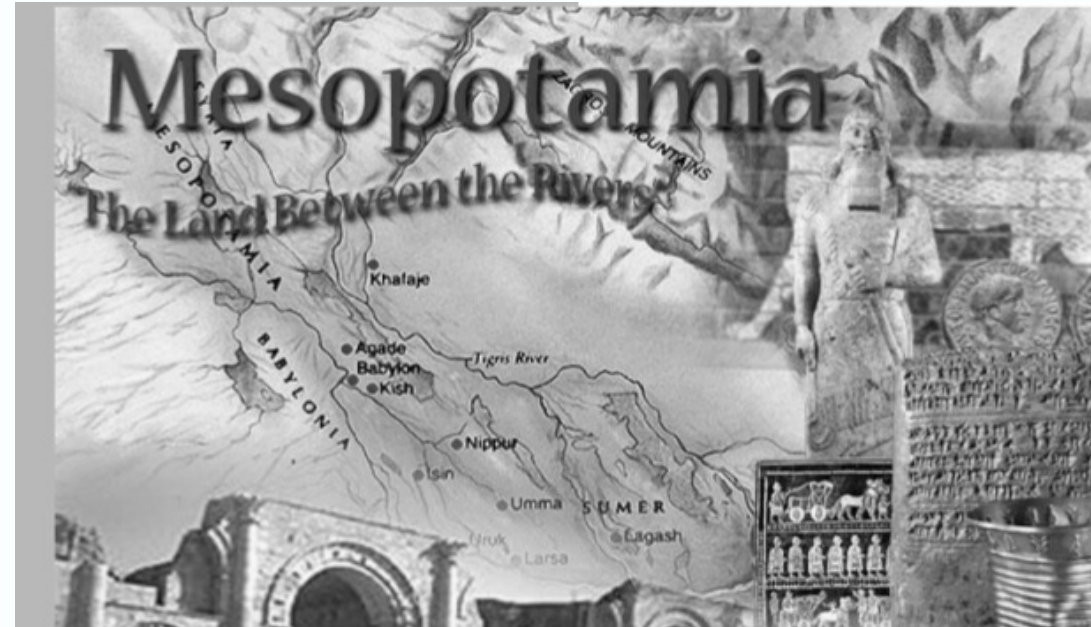
Student Learning



SCIENCE

Students discuss the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources as well as the importance of conserving energy. Each student had choice in choosing a country they would like to research. After choosing a country, students created a plan for the country of their choice on what renewable energy resources could be used. Students were to take into consideration the location of the country and what resource is a logical source. After conducting research, students were to create a presentation to share with the class that includes: the location of the country on a map, climate/weather, type of renewable resource they use and why, where the renewable energy resource will be placed, and advantages/disadvantages. Upon completion of this project, the students will have a better understanding of how different countries around the world use different forms of renewable energy resources.

Student Learning



SOCIAL STUDIES

Students were able to participate in a month long simulation that placed them in ancient Mesopotamia. The students learned how Mesopotamia became a center of dense population, urbanization, and cultural innovation. The students learned how commercial and cultural interaction contributed to change in Mesopotamia. This will aid the community in how to better use resources, innovations and allow the students to achieve productive citizenship now and in the future.

Student Learning



TECHNOLOGY

Students in seventh grade read an article on NEWSELA on "How to be an environmental advocate during COVID-19." This was completed through Google Classroom by using a chromebook. In addition, students were assigned, through Google Classroom, to complete a paragraph that explained the central idea of the article using at least two details from the text to support their response. Due to COVID-19, students were graded with a checkmark for complete or an M for missing.

Student and Staff Wellness



PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

1. At the beginning of every day, students at Franklin Township School can pick a “Morning Stretch” video to watch and complete as a homeroom class.
2. Franklin Township School has installed a wood chip “paved” green walkway around its soccer and solar fields, providing a walk/jog/run pathway which students and staff have the ability to use.
3. Sport offering information was collected and sent home to parents/guardians to describe the sport offering for students in school and within the community. Therefore, promoting physical activity outside of school hours.
4. Franklin Township School hosts a field day where organized activities are planned for students in preschool through eighth grade.
5. The fundraiser for the 8th grade class has been a staff versus 8th grade students basketball game.

Student and Staff Wellness



STAFF WELLNESS PROGRAM

1. The school doctor comes to the school to provide free flu vaccines and tetanus shots for all staff.
2. Full Value Training in 2017 provided staff the opportunity to participate in activity based and mindfulness professional development.
3. In October of 2017, the school nurse provided information on self breast exams during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
4. During the 2019-2020 school year, the school staff participated in a Voyager Relaxation.
5. Wellness information is provided through email and faculty meetings.
6. The wellness committee surveyed the staff to find out what their health priorities are and created initiatives. Some initiatives will be completed during the January 17th inservice.

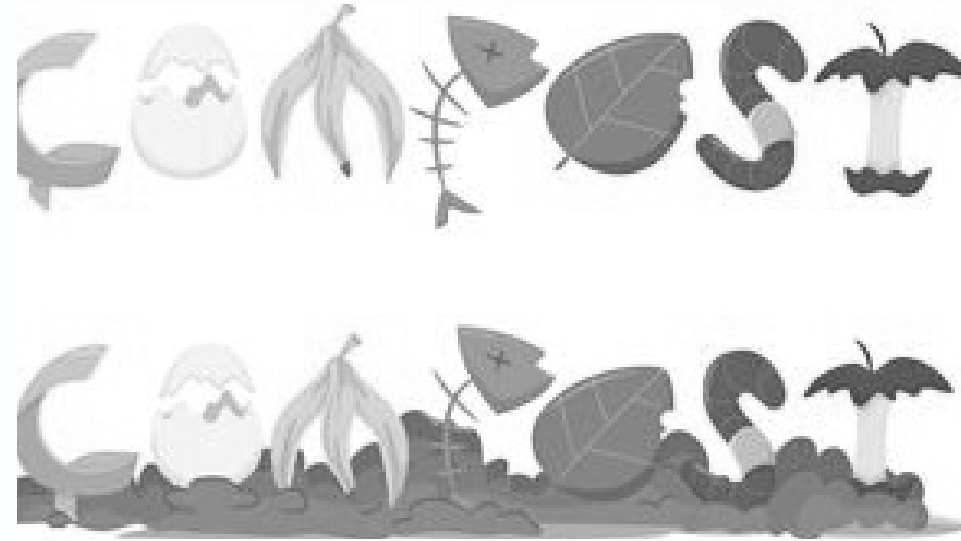
Student Safety



PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY AND PROMOTION INITIATIVES

1. Students in the fifth grade participate in Safety Patrol. Students who are members of the safety patrol have been provided training through the school counselor using the AAA materials.
2. Students in fifth grade go on an annual bike trip. Prior to the trip, the Health and Physical Education Teacher reviews bike safety, guidelines, and expectations.
3. In 2019, Franklin Township School purchased a bike rack. This is one active transportation best practice that has been implemented at the school.

Waste Management and Recycling



FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT

Composting barrels were purchased in 2017. Food waste from the cafeteria, which is collected in bins, has been put into the composting barrels.



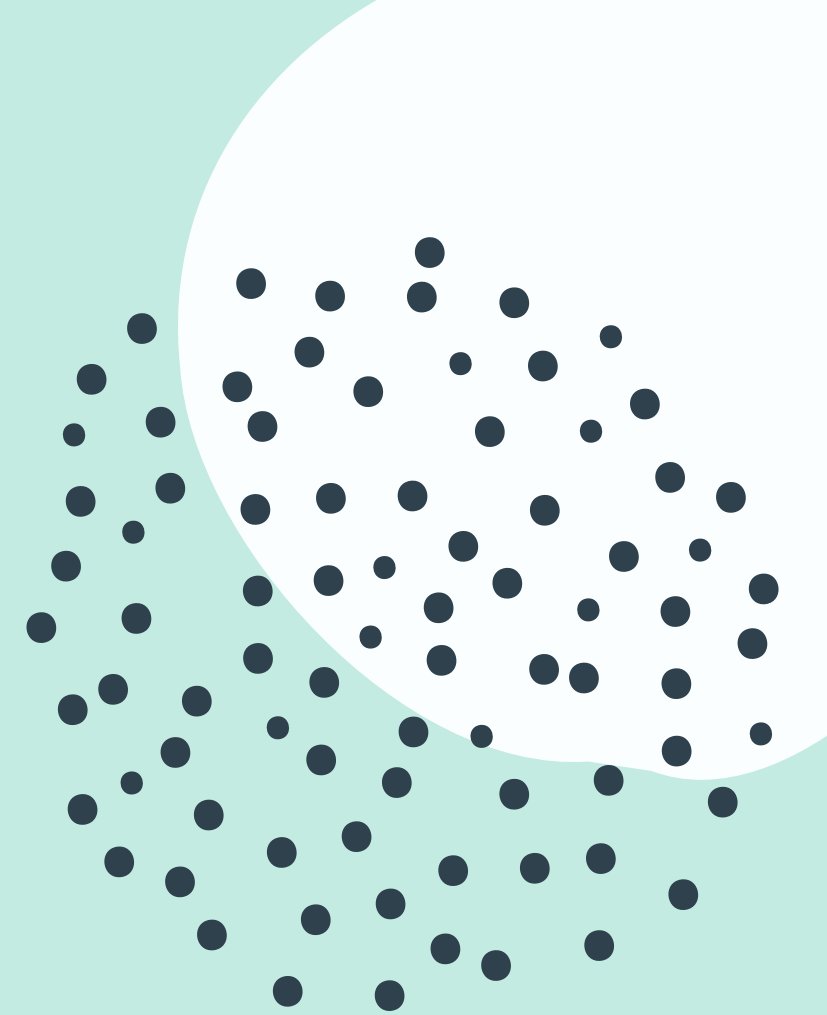
RECYCLING NON-MANDATED MATERIALS

1. The Peer Assistance Leadership Program collected gently used books to donate to local hospitals and shelters.
2. Students in 5th grade who graduated the L.E.A.D. program, brought in stuffed animals to be reused.
3. The National Junior Honor Society began a Jeans for Teens collection where gently used jeans were collected and donated to teens in need.
4. Student Council members worked with the Green Team to collect used sneakers. Sneakers that were collected were recycled through GotSneakers?

CERTIFICATION



SILVER STATUS!!!!



WE EARNED.....

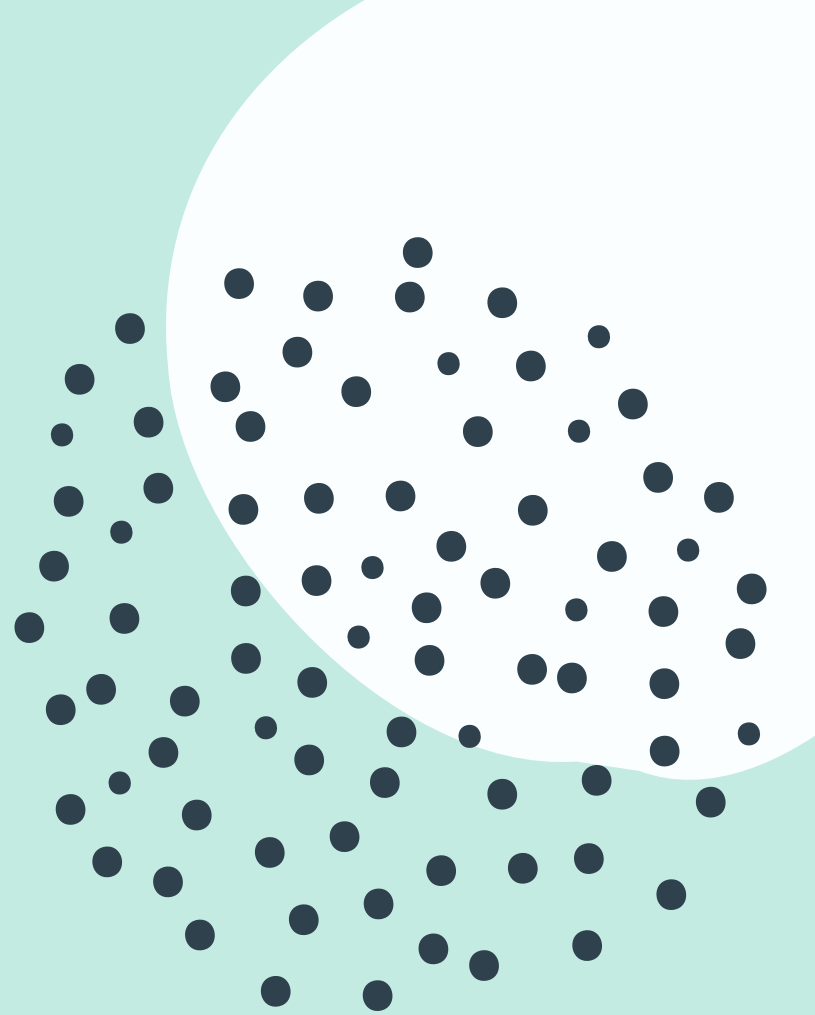
415 Total Points

13 Categories

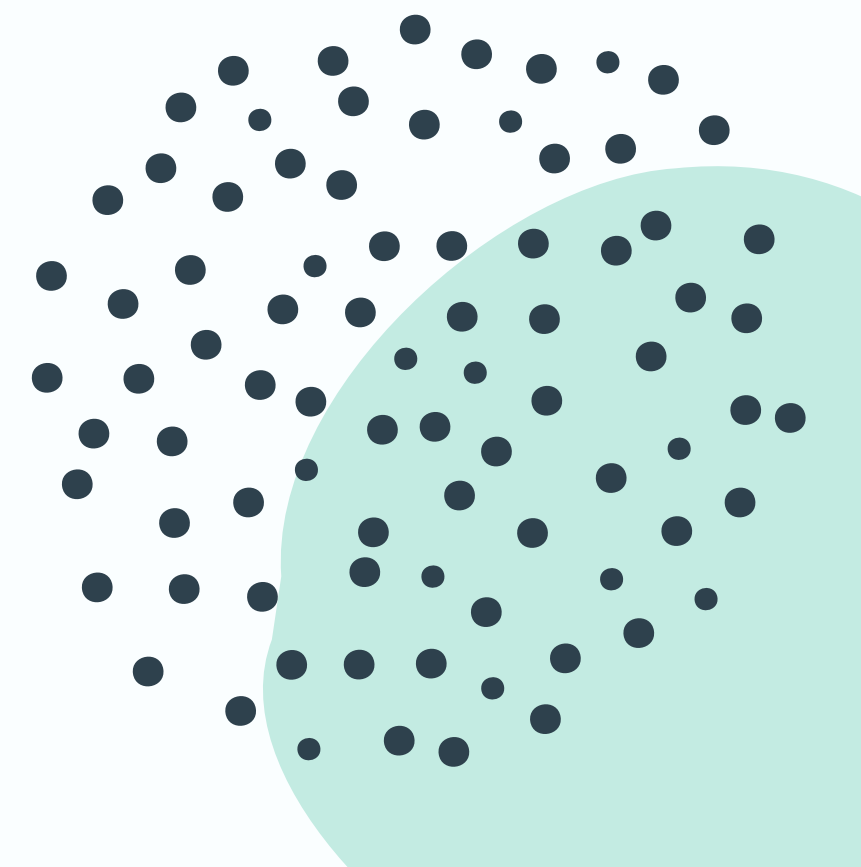
39 Actions



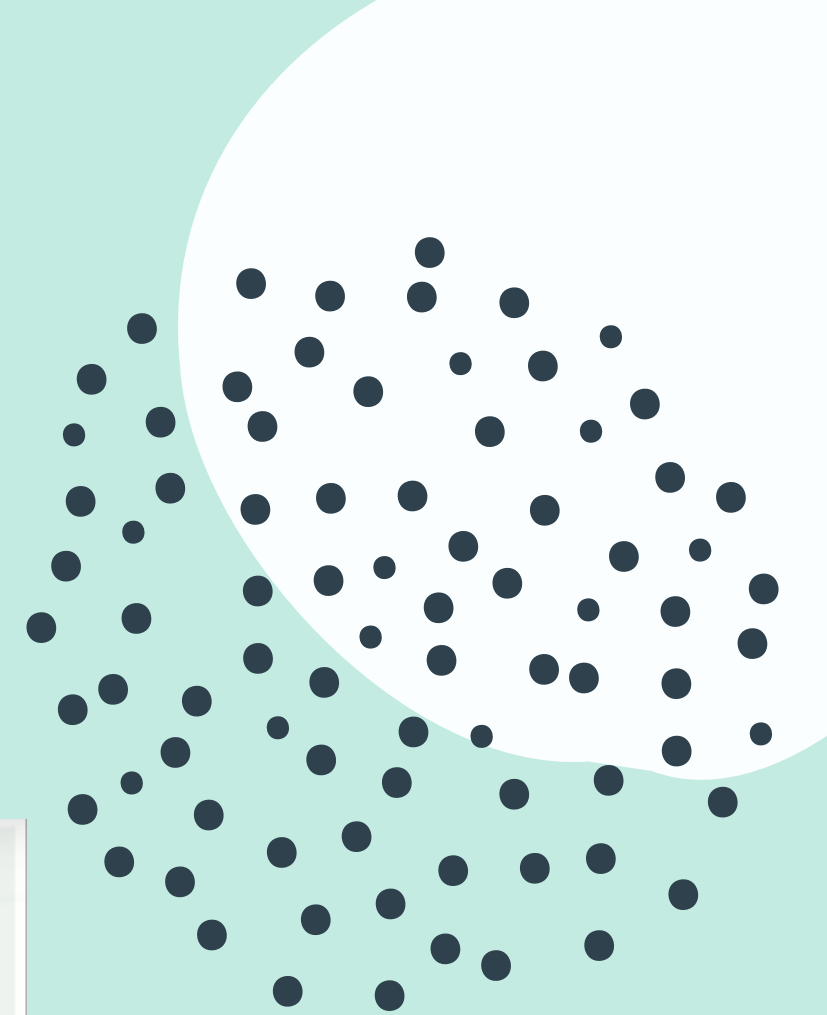
SILVER STATUS!!!!



GRANT



PSEG



\$2,000 GRANT

The grant will be used for the school garden. Franklin Township School was awarded this grant.

A graphic for a 2020 Grants Announcement Event. It features two logos at the top: 'FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED' with the tagline 'A Brighter Future, One School at a Time' and the PSEG Foundation logo. The main text reads '2020 Grants Announcement Event' and 'Presented By: Sustainable Jersey for Schools and the PSEG Foundation'.

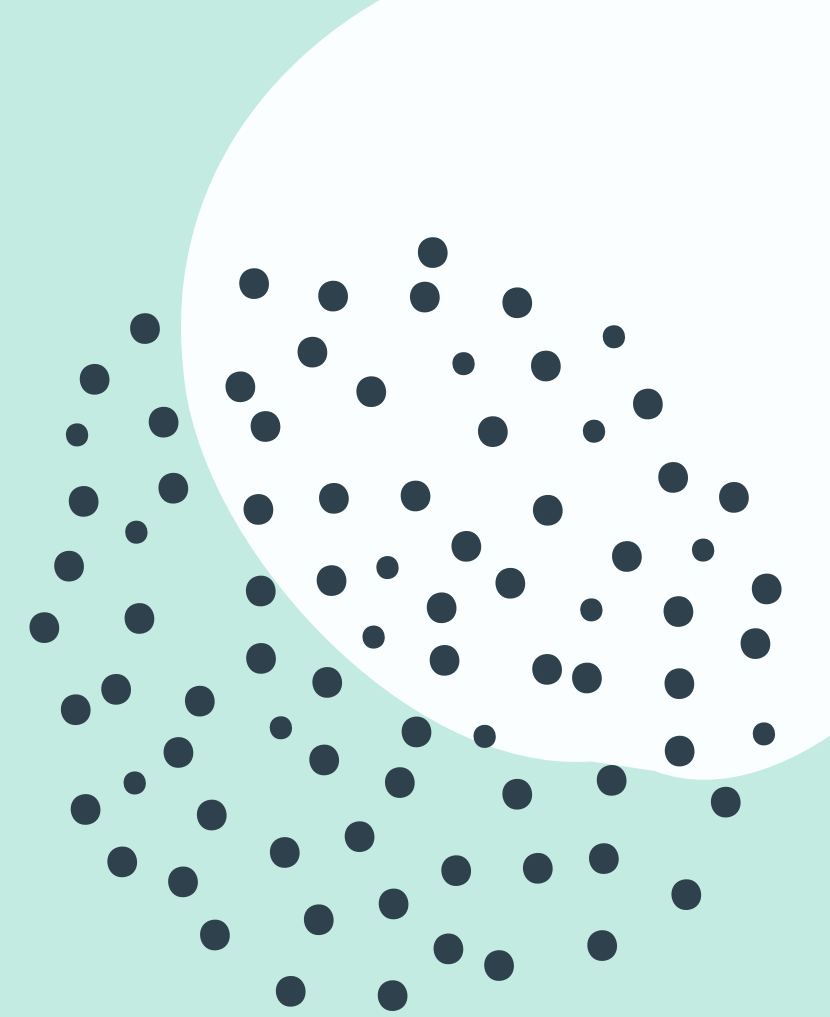
FOR SCHOOLS
SUSTAINABLE
JERSEY
• CERTIFIED •
A Brighter Future, One School at a Time

PSEG
Foundation

2020 Grants Announcement Event

Presented By:
Sustainable Jersey for Schools and the PSEG Foundation

Applying for NJEA Grant



\$10,000 GRANT

We will apply for a \$10,000 grant.



**Sustainable Jersey for Schools
2020-2021 Grants Program**

Funded By:



FUTURE GOALS FOR SUSTAINABILITY





Future Goals

- Outdoor Classroom
- Update Wellness Policy
- Zones of Regulation
- Continue the School Climate and Culture Survey
- Apply for additional grant opportunities



**THANK
YOU!**