

# Sustainable NJ for Schools

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Livingston High School

Livingston Board of Education  
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# What is Sustainable NJ for Schools?

- *“Certification program for New Jersey public schools that want to go green, conserve resources and take steps to create a brighter future, one school at a time.”*
- Nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support and reward schools as they pursue sustainability programs.
- Environmental Sustainability Pathway at LHS
  - “Think Global, Act Local”
  - Involve multiple stakeholders- “Green Team”
  - Sustainability Science 1 and 2 courses at LHS
  - Doug Jay as liaison



# Benefits of the Program

- Grant awards
- Community stakeholder involvement
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Reductions in operating costs?
- Improvements in health and wellness
- Embracing community diversity



# Benefits, continued

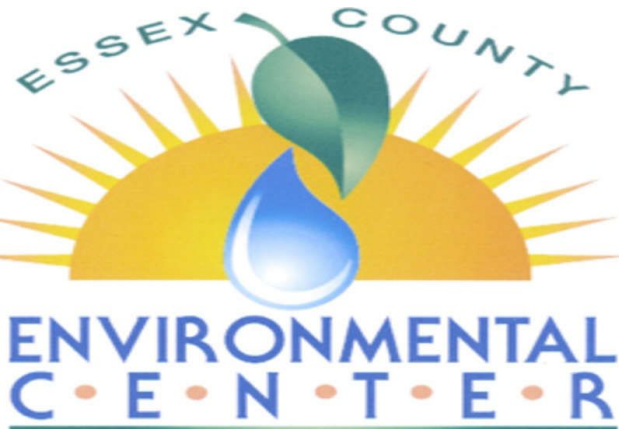
## **BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION**

Sustainable Jersey certification is a prestigious designation for schools in New Jersey. Registered and certified schools gain priority access to grant programs and are eligible to apply for the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Small Grants program. By registering or gaining certification, your school will receive updates on special events and news about the latest resources to assist you on your journey to becoming a more sustainable school.



# Student Testimonials- Drew Ruiz

- Field of sustainability has increasing opportunities and potential for the future (fish farms)
- Going to Kean University to pursue this path
- Been involved in this area of science since I was very little (ECEC)
- Something I've always wanted to see
- Not an area that is offered much



# Student Testimonials- Baylee Sessler

- College major
- A changing environment
- Field will always be there
- LHS → educate students
- Envirothon team



# Examples of Certification Actions

PEOPLE	DIVERSITY & EQUITY		Points
	Accessible Communications	🔔 🏢	10
	Breakfast After The Bell	🔔 🏢	20
	Diversity on District Task Forces & Committees	🏢	10
	FOOD & NUTRITION		
	Healthy Food Choices	🔔 🏢	10
	Promote Locally Grown Foods	🔔 🏢	10
	School Gardens	🔔	10
	HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS		
	Indoor Air Quality Review ★	🔔	15
	Access to Healthy Water in Schools	🔔	20
	Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement	🔔 🏢	10
	Asthma Friendly Schools	🔔	10
	Classroom Chemical Purchase, Storage & Disposal Policy	🔔 🏢	15
	Classroom Cleanup Policy & Practices	🔔 🏢	10
	Integrated Pest Management-Education & Organic Lawn Care	🔔	10
	Outdoor Air Quality Awareness	🔔 🏢	10
	Radon Testing, Education and Mitigation	🔔	10-20
	Reporting Process for Indoor Air Quality Concerns	🔔	10
	SCHOOL CULTURE & CLIMATE		
	Inclusive Environment Where All Can Thrive	🔔	10
	School Culture & Climate Needs Assessment	🔔	20
	Social Emotional Learning Integrated Unit	🔔	10
	STUDENT & COMMUNITY OUTREACH		
	Green Team 🏆		10
	Community Education & Outreach ★	🔔	10

PLANE	RENEWABLE ENERGY		
	School Carbon Footprint ★	🔔	10
	Buy Renewable Electricity	🔔	10
	On-site Renewable Generation System-Geothermal	🔔	10
	On-site Renewable Generation System-Solar	🔔	5-40
	GREEN CLEANING		
	Green Cleaning Equipment	🔔 🏢	10
	Green Cleaning Policy & Plan	🔔 🏢	10
	Green Cleaning Supplies	🔔 🏢	10
	Green Cleaning Training & Education Programs	🔔 🏢	10
	GREEN DESIGN		
	Green Building Policy ★	🏢	10
	Design/Build/Certify New Construction & Major Renovations using Green Standard	🔔	10-50
	Green Building Training	🔔 🏢	10
	GREEN PURCHASING		
	Green Purchasing Policy ★	🏢	10
	Energy Efficient Appliances or Equipment	🔔 🏢	10
	Recycled Paper Purchase	🔔 🏢	10
	SCHOOL GROUNDS		
	Biodiversity Audit & Management Plan	🔔	10
	Biodiversity Project	🔔	10
	Green Infrastructure Assessment & Plan	🔔	10
	Green Infrastructure Installation	🔔	10
	WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING		
	Waste Audit ★	🔔	10
	Document Recycling Rates	🔔	10
	EPA Waste Wi\$e	🔔	5
	Food Waste Management	🔔	15

LEARNING STRUCTURES		
All Arts Disciplines Offered		10
Curriculum Mapping	 	15-30
Student Participation in the Arts		10
<b>STUDENT LEARNING</b> ★ (One approved action in this category counts toward priority requirements)		
Education for Sustainability Pre K-3		5-25
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Science		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Math		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 English Language Arts		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Social Studies		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Creativity/Arts		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Health		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Information Technology		5
Education for Sustainability Grades 4-12 Career and Technical Education		5
Education for Sustainability Integrated Unit		10-50

## Certification Actions, continued:

← Note the prospect for interdisciplinary projects focused on sustainability



# How Certification Works

1. SusSci students / Green Team propose an action
2. Research logistics, costs, implementation\*
  - Sustainable NJ provides detailed itinerary per action
  - Grant Opportunities- student grant writing practice
3. Begin implementation
  - B&G, BOE involvement will vary depending on action
4. Complete action, assemble necessary evidence
5. Submit evidence to SusNJ for review
6. Points awarded to LHS towards certification

*\* Many actions are already “completed” through current district practices, we may just need to acquire evidence in order to submit to SusNJ.*

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# Outreach and Collaboration Opportunities

- Professorial contacts established:
  - Kean University
  - Fairleigh Dickinson Univ.
- Kean University- Sustainability Science
  - Undergraduate Major
- Local Businesses
- NOCTI- Sustainability 101 Certification
- State/County Agencies and Utilities
  - NJDEP
  - PSE&G Grants
  - Essex Co. Parks & Rec.
- Local Watershed Associations
  - Great Swamp, NJ Audubon
- Local Farms
  - Alstede Farms- Chester, NJ
  - Duke Farms- Hillsborough, NJ



# Going Forward



1. Resolution passed by BOE- May
2. Initial formation of LHS “Green Team”- June
3. Sustainability Science 1 Curriculum Writing- July
4. Begin completing and submitting SusNJ actions- Fall 2019

# Questions?

