

BOARD OF EDUCATION

EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Attachment: #204

Board Meeting Date

September 28, 2015

Committee: Education

Subject: Approval of District/School Participation in Sustainable Jersey for Schools Program

Contact Person: Michael Nitti, Superintendent

Action

1. BACKGROUND:

Achieving environmental, social, and economic sustainability will require a commitment from all sectors of society. New Jersey's public school districts are in a unique position to make substantial contributions toward the goal of a sustainable world for future generations. Schools engage a community of students, families, educators and other staff. A school that embraces and promotes sustainability in its various operations, including planning, facilities, teaching and outreach, will help to instill in the school community a shared understanding of the importance of sustainability and how each person can help achieve it.

Sustainable Jersey for Schools recognizes and promotes best practices that result in a healthier school climate, improve the educational program and conserve our schools' limited physical and financial resources.

The Ewing Township Board of Education seeks to participate in Sustainable Jersey for Schools to focus attention and efforts on matters of sustainability and pursue initiatives that will lead to Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification.

Through our participation, the Ewing Township Board of Education and District Superintendent seek to support and work with school staff and administrators, students and parents to ensure a safe and healthy environment for students by encouraging our school community to implement sustainable, energy-smart, eco-friendly and cost-effective solutions.

Through participation, the district seeks to promote the extensive opportunities that exist to teach students about ecological, economic and social sustainability, environmental health, and nutrition; to integrate sustainability education into classroom learning; and to support students in becoming leaders in making their schools healthier and more sustainable places.

Through participation, the district seeks to promote the many options and choices that exist for schools to use resources more efficiently; to reduce, reuse and recycle; to follow Green Building Standards for construction and major renovations; to form school partnerships; to eliminate toxic chemicals; to purchase (or produce) clean energy; and to purchase recycled paper, energy-efficient equipment and other green products to protect our global environment.

Through participation, the district will stress that Sustainability means using resources wisely, saving money, and reducing our impact on the environment, all of which will ensure the future health, safety, and prosperity of our children.

In our participation, the district commits to the formation of a district Sustainability Leadership Team (also referred to as “Green Team”) consisting of district administrative leaders who will guide participation and shape programs, based on the framework provided by Sustainable Jersey for Schools.

These Green Team members will help schools adopt policies and practices addressing areas such as sustainability education and professional training, green purchasing, waste reduction, indoor air quality, energy-saving initiatives and community partnerships.

The Ewing Township Board of Education will encourage Green Teams at all district schools by providing networking and educational opportunities.

Therefore, it is resolved that the Ewing Township Board of Education agrees to participate in Sustainable Jersey for Schools, and it is the Board’s intention to pursue certification for schools in the district.

The Board of Education acknowledges that Superintendent Michael Nitti will be the district’s liaison to Sustainable Jersey for Schools.

The Board of Education recognizes:

- Ewing High School
- Fisher Middle School/O’Brien Academy
- Antheil Elementary School
- Parkway Elementary School
- Lore Elementary School

as the school-based sites to carry out our commitment to building a sustainable school district through the implementation of Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions and agrees to support district actions and to support the district’s schools in completing their actions.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION/RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve participation in this program.

3. FISCAL IMPACT:

Participation in the program is free and there are no associated costs.

4. BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Education approve participation in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program.

EWING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

District Administrative Offices
2099 Pennington Road
Ewing, NJ 08618

(609) 538-9800 Ext. 1302—(609) 538-0041 (Fax)

CERTIFIED BOARD RESOLUTION

I, Dennis J. Nettleton, CPA, RSBA, SFO, Board Secretary of the Ewing Township Board of Education, hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Resolution adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting held on
September 28, 2015.

Following is the Board vote on this Resolution


On motion by Mrs. Staub seconded by Ms. Benedetti, the Board approved this Resolution by the following roll call vote:

YEAS: Ms. Benedetti, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Benedetti, Mr. Ewell, Mrs. McKeon, Mr. White, Mrs. Staub and Mr. Messina

NAYS: None

ABSTENTION: None

ABSENT: Mr. Franks


Dennis J. Nettleton, CPA, RSBA, SFO
Board Secretary

SEAL

The Ewing Public Schools

Providing a Foundation for Life