

SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



Resources to Support Sustainable Classrooms

May 3, 2024

Panel Speakers



Sarah Sterling-Laldee
Senior Climate Change Education Advisor
Division of Teaching and Learning
New Jersey Department of Education



**Jenny Schrum PhD, MSW,
MPH**
Research & Evaluation Strategy Manager
NJ Office of the Food Security Advocate



Nicole Broadwater
Farm to School Coordinator
New Jersey Department of Agriculture



New Jersey Department of Education



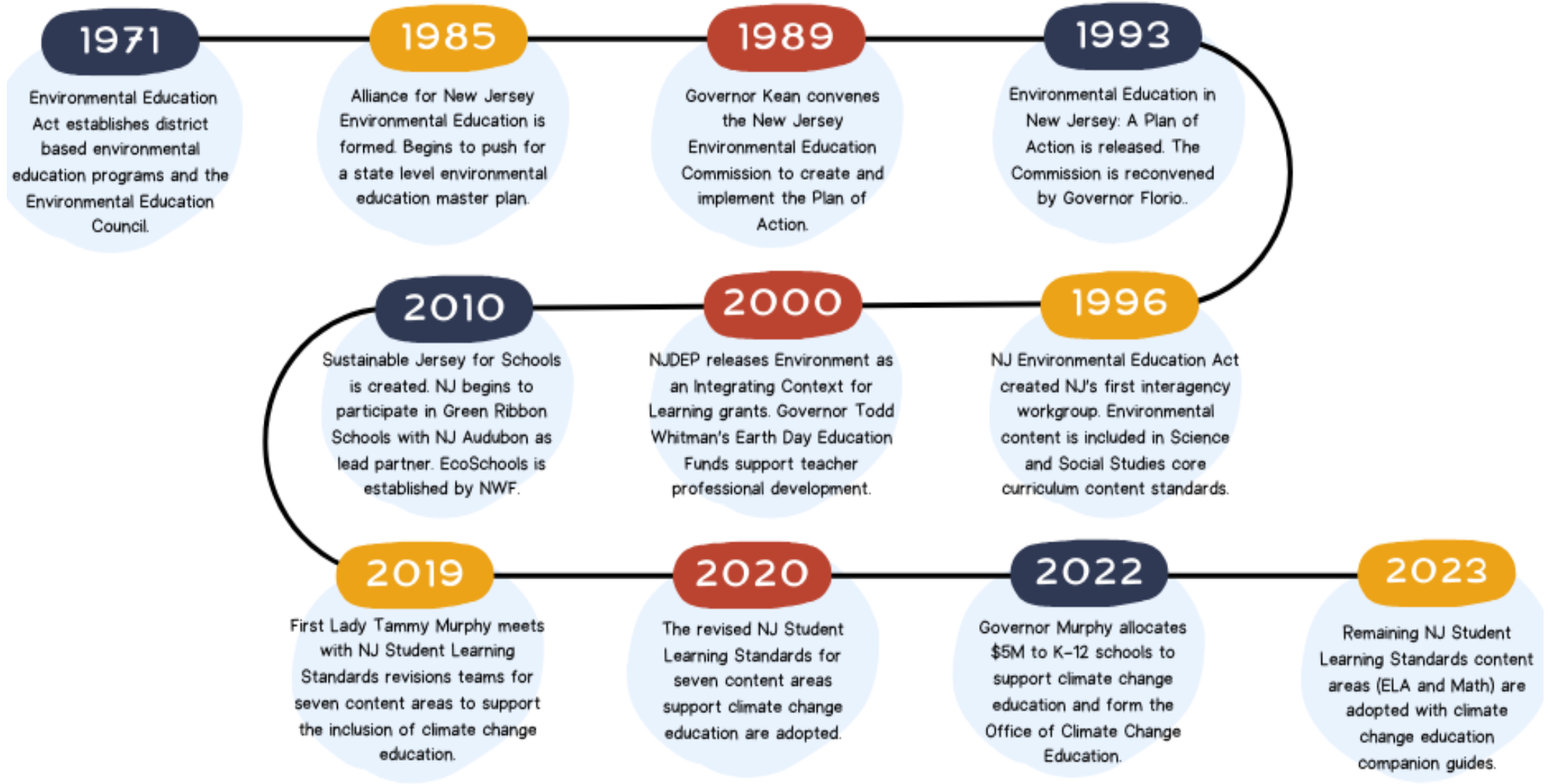
Paving a Path to Climate Literacy for All

NJ Sustainability Summit, May 3, 2024


Sarah Sterling-Laldee, Senior Advisor, Climate Change Education

Division of Teaching & Learning

NJ Climate Education Policy: A Brief History




Are we really the first in the nation?



State-Level Legislation Concerning K-12 Climate Change Education

James Elder | Campaign for Environmental Literacy
Anisa Heming | Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council
Jacqueline Maley | Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council

 **Center for Green Schools**
at the U.S. Green Building Council




 **Climate vs Environmental Justice**


Photo credit: Graceland Park/O'Donnell Heights EMS | LEED Platinum | Baltimore, MD | © Martice Tucker (Grimm + Parker)




Mapping the Landscape of K-12 Climate Change Education Policy in the United States

Full Report
May 2022

 **MECCE**
MONITORING AND EVALUATING
CLIMATE COMMUNICATION
AND EDUCATION PROJECT

 **naaee**
North American Association
for Environmental Education

 **WOKA**
foundation

Thank you to the Woka Foundation for their generous support of this report.



Educational jargon explained...



Standards – describe what students need to know and do.



Curriculum frameworks – provide guidance about how to achieve the standards.



Curriculum – describe in specific detail what teachers should do to achieve the standards.

Turn & Talk:

- What is happening in your community around climate change education?
- How would you like to see it expand?

Why Standards?



- Local governance statutes
- Situates learning in formal educational arena
- Promotes interdisciplinary learning
- Supports equitable engagement and workforce development



Climate Change Education in New Jersey



Prepare students to understand:

- How and why climate change happens.
- The impact it has on our local and global communities.
- How to act in informed and sustainable ways.

Climate Change Impacts in New Jersey



Rising Temperatures



Increasing Precipitation



Sea-Level Rise



Ocean Acidification



Decreased Water Quality



Extreme Weather



Drought

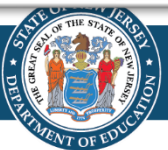


Decreased Air Quality



Turn & Talk:

- Which of these impacts do you experience in your community?
- Are there different impacts in the community you serve?



Standards-Based across Multiple Content Areas

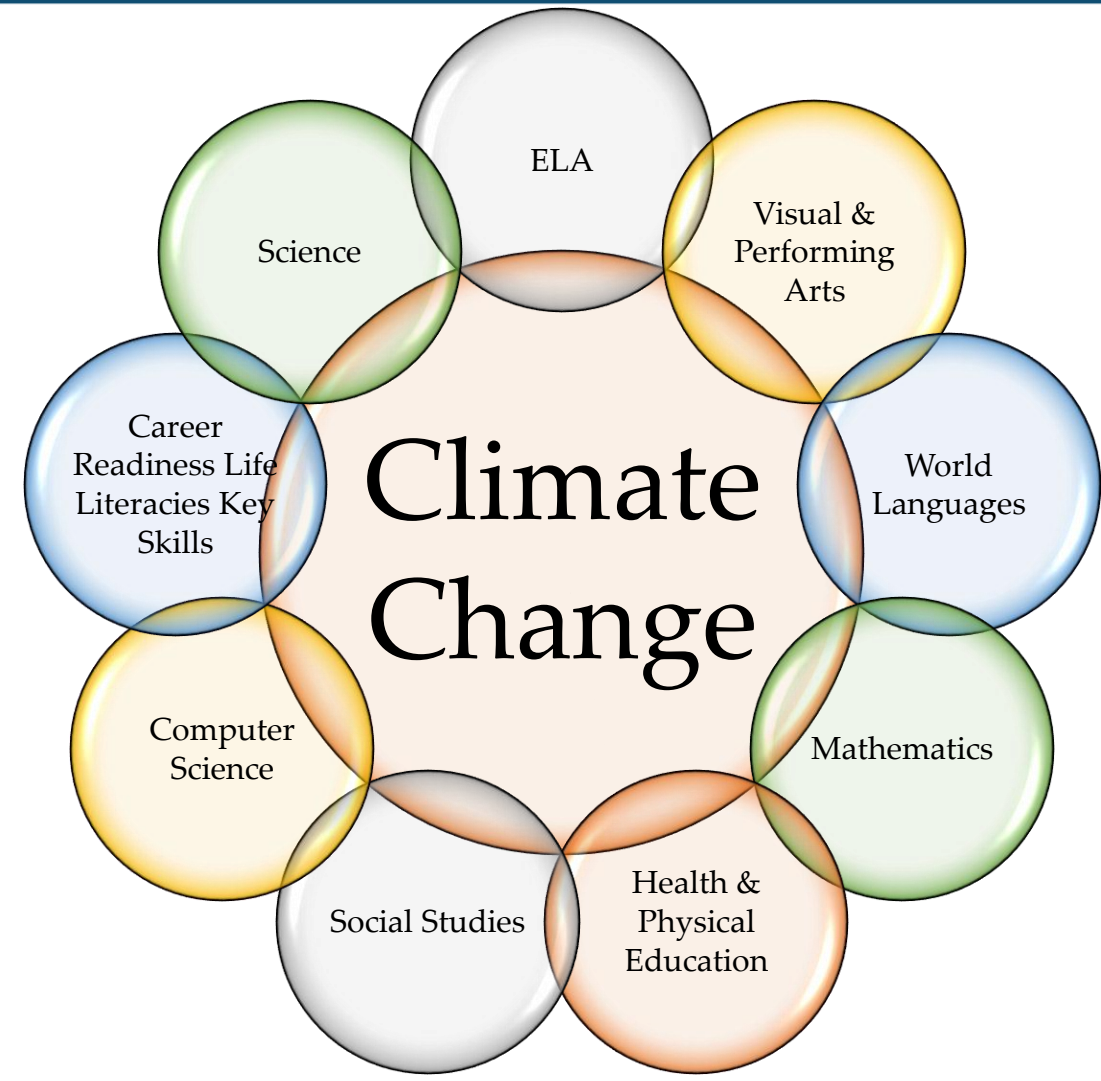


economists

entrepreneurs

data analysts

policy makers



artists

urban planners

anthropologists

epidemiologists





NJDOE Key Elements



1. Grounded in climate science.





2. Developmentally appropriate.

What is developmentally appropriate?



Next Generation Science Standards ESS3.D Global Climate Change

Grade Band	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
Disciplinary Core Idea	N/A	N/A	Human activities affect global warming. Decisions to reduce the impact of global warming depend on understanding climate science, engineering capabilities, and social dynamics.	Global climate models used to predict changes continue to be improved, although discoveries about the global climate system are ongoing and continually needed.



NJDOE Key Elements



3. Interdisciplinary – incorporates performance expectations for four content areas and provides a means to assess all four.

NJDOE Key Elements



4. Standards-based – addresses specific, grade-appropriate standards.



NJDOE Key Elements



5. Place-based – engages students in learning about local issues in and with their community.





NJDOE Key Elements



6. Action-Oriented



Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Climate Change Performance Expectations



Core Ideas	Performance Expectations
People in the community work to keep us safe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1.2.CHSS.4: Describe how climate change affects the health of individuals, plants and animals.
Community professionals and school personnel are available to assist and address health emergencies as well as provide reliable information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1.5.CHSS.2: Describe how business, non-profit organizations, and individuals can work cooperatively to address health problems that are affected by global issues, including climate change.
Advocacy for personal, family, community, and global health can influence and change the interaction of people and their health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1.8.CHSS.7: Collaborate with other students to develop a strategy to address health issues related to climate change.
Local, state, and global advocacy organizations provide accurate and reliable resources and strategies designed to address common health and social issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1.12.CHSS.8: Investigate how local, state, and global agencies are addressing health issues caused by climate change and share this information in an appropriate setting.





Challenges



Politicization of
climate literacy
and learning

Foundational
science literacy

Structural
constraints

Tempo
mismatch

Cohesion



Opportunities



FY 24 Expanding Access Climate Grants

- Climate Change Education Learning Collaboratives
 - Teacher learning
 - Cross sector collaboration
 - Network development
- Climate Change Interdisciplinary Units & Climate Resiliency Projects
 - Teacher collaboration
 - Interdisciplinary learning (for students AND teachers)
 - Community engagement

Opportunities



- Growing coalitions
- Stakeholder feedback
- Increasing student access to careers in Green and Blue Economies through Career and Technical Education



Thank You!



New Jersey Department of Education Website

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/>

Sarah Sterling-Laldee, Senior Advisor, Climate Change Education, ssterlin@doe.nj.gov

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NJ Office of the Food security advocate (OFSA)



OFFICE OF THE
FOOD SECURITY
ADVOCATE

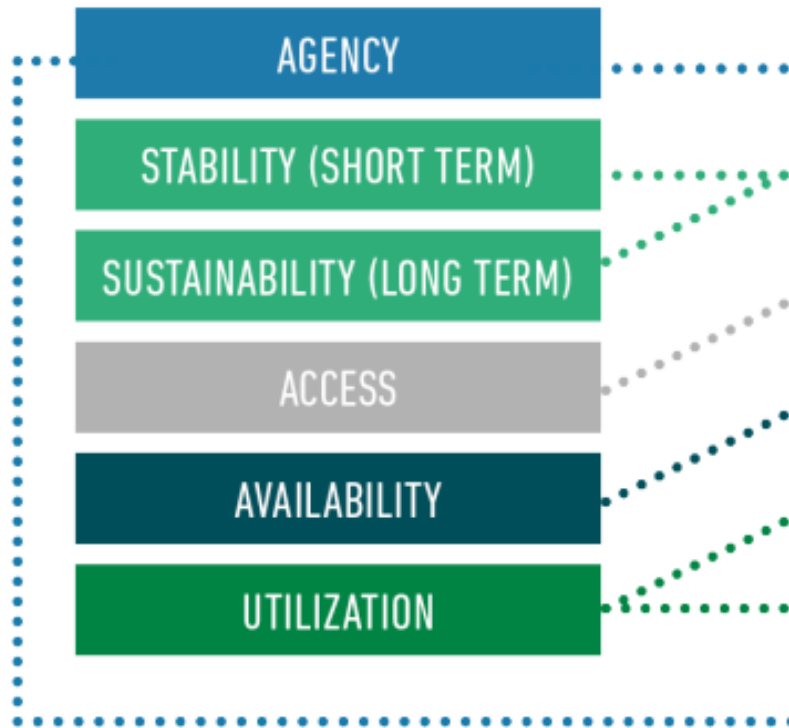
OFSA Work Goals & Strategies

OFSA works as a convener and collaborator within the state government as well as the spectrum of entities in the food system. The activities of the office are focused on three buckets of work:

Informing policy through research and community listening.

Collaborating with philanthropy to create aligned goals.

Organizing local organizations to break down siloes.



“Food security (is) a situation that exists when
ALL PEOPLE,
AT ALL TIMES, *have*
PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ACCESS *to*
SUFFICIENT,
SAFE AND NUTRITIOUS *food that meets their*
DIETARY NEEDS *and*
FOOD PREFERENCES
for an active and healthy life.”

Availability

Sufficient and nutritious food physically present in the environment

Food deserts, high cost of living environments, store proximity

Access

Resources a household must obtain for appropriate and nutritious foods

Finances, transportation, social network

Utilization

Intake of sufficient and safe food to meet nutritional needs

Food storage, dietary needs (medical, demographic)

Stability

Reliable supply of foods over time to mitigate shocks in the near or immediate future

Market fluctuation, conflict, natural disaster

Agency

Capacity of individuals and groups to make decisions about, and participate in, food systems

Labeling and nutritional info, participatory research

Sustainability

Food system practices that ensure food needs of the present are met without compromising the future

Diet sustainability, ecosystem stability, food waste

Michigan Center for Sustainable Systems

»

K-12 STEM RESOURCES »

— AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES »

— BIODIVERSITY »

— CARBON FOOTPRINT »

— CITIES »

— CLIMATE CHANGE »

— ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE »

— FOOD »

— GREEN IT »

— MATERIAL USE »

— MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE »

— PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION
»

— RENEWABLE ENERGY »

— RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS »

— U.S. WATER SUPPLY AND
DISTRIBUTION »

— WASTEWATER »

Videos:

The Carbon Footprint Of A Sandwich

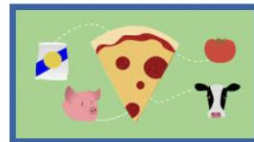


Grade Level: 3-8

Duration: 3 minutes 5 seconds

Description: This video from NPR's Skunk Bear traces the carbon footprint of a BLT. Through this engaging video, *students will learn* how a simple sandwich impacts the planet.

Kids Go Green: Reducing Food Waste



Grade Level: K -5

Duration: 1 minute 54 seconds

Description: This video animation from WNET discusses the environmental consequences of food waste. Additionally, *students will learn* ways they can decrease the food waste that they produce.

Vermicomposting: How worms can reduce our waste - Matthew Ross



Grade Level: 6-12

Duration: 4 minutes 29 seconds

Description: This video animation from TED-Ed by

K-12 STEM educational resources on agriculture, food systems, and healthy eating

- Videos
- Podcasts
- Games/Activities

<https://css.umich.edu/page/sustainability-resources-teachers-food>

The SNAP Café and Hunger Museum

Build a complete meal and see if SNAP benefits would be sufficient to financially afford it:

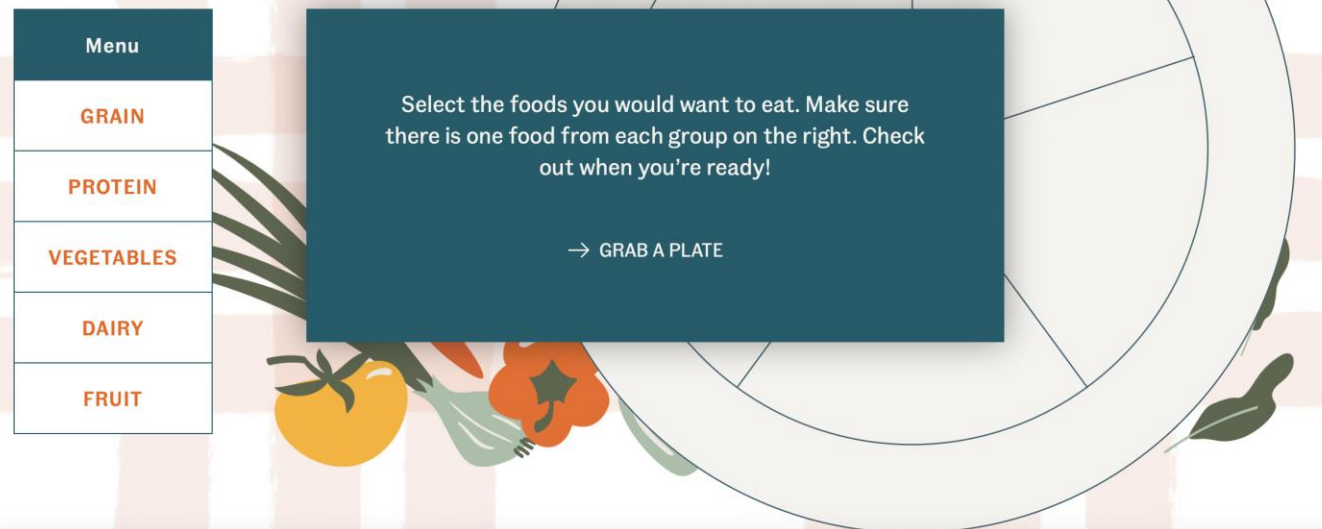
<https://hungermuseum.org/create-a-meal-in-the-snap-cafe/>

Visit a virtual museum on hunger and related policies.

Schedule a field trip!

<https://hungermuseum.org>

The SNAP Café:
Create your meal



The screenshot shows a digital interface for creating a meal. On the left is a vertical menu with the following categories: Menu, GRAIN, PROTEIN, VEGETABLES, DAIRY, and FRUIT. In the center is a dark blue instruction box that reads: "Select the foods you would want to eat. Make sure there is one food from each group on the right. Check out when you're ready!" Below the text is a button that says "→ GRAB A PLATE". To the right of the instruction box is a large, light-colored plate with a circular border and a central vertical line. The background features a stylized illustration of a tomato, a bell pepper, and other vegetables.

Johns Hopkins FoodSpan

Free, downloadable curriculum provides high school students with a deep understanding of **critical food system issues**, empowers them to **make healthy and responsible food choices**, and encourages them to become **advocates for food system change**.

Foodspan.org



Culminating Project
Food Citizen Action Project

Students will identify a food system problem and design an intervention to address it. This project has students apply what they have learned from prior lessons, and empowers them to create change.

Divide the class into small groups. Each group will:

1. Choose a food system problem to address
2. Describe any downstream effects of the problem on public health, society, and/or ecosystems
3. Identify factors that contribute to the problem, and choose at one factor that the intervention will act upon
4. Design the intervention, including:
 - an achievable goal (encourage students to keep it realistic)
 - specific action steps
 - how the effects of the intervention will be measured
5. Identify allies who could help implement the intervention
6. Anticipate potential barriers, including groups in opposition to the intervention, and how they could be overcome



WHAT IS IT? HOW CAN IT HELP YOUR STUDENTS?

Summer EBT is a new and permanent nutrition program that provides \$120 in benefits *per eligible child* this summer. Summer EBT is coming to NJ in June 2024.

WHERE CAN STUDENTS USE IT?

The benefits can be used at places that accept SNAP/EBT.



3 THINGS TO KNOW, EDUCATORS' & SCHOOL ADMINS' EDITION:

1. All eligible lower income families can get Summer EBT regardless of immigration status and regardless of participation in local summer feeding sites.



2. There are multiple paths to eligibility. The key call-to-action is for parents to contact their child's school to determine eligibility and/or complete or update their school meals application.



3a. **NJASBO**, the **NJ School Nutrition Association**, **NJASA** and **NJDA Food and Nutrition** are among the many partners in NJ Summer EBT outreach efforts.



3b. This means school business administrators, food service directors and superintendents in each district are working to appoint and equip school personnel to respond to parents' inquiries. **Watch for specific details from your school leadership team.**

Learn more: NJ.gov/SummerEBT



Thank you!

Dr. Jenny Schrum, Research & Evaluation Manager:
Jennifer.Schrum@ag.nj.gov

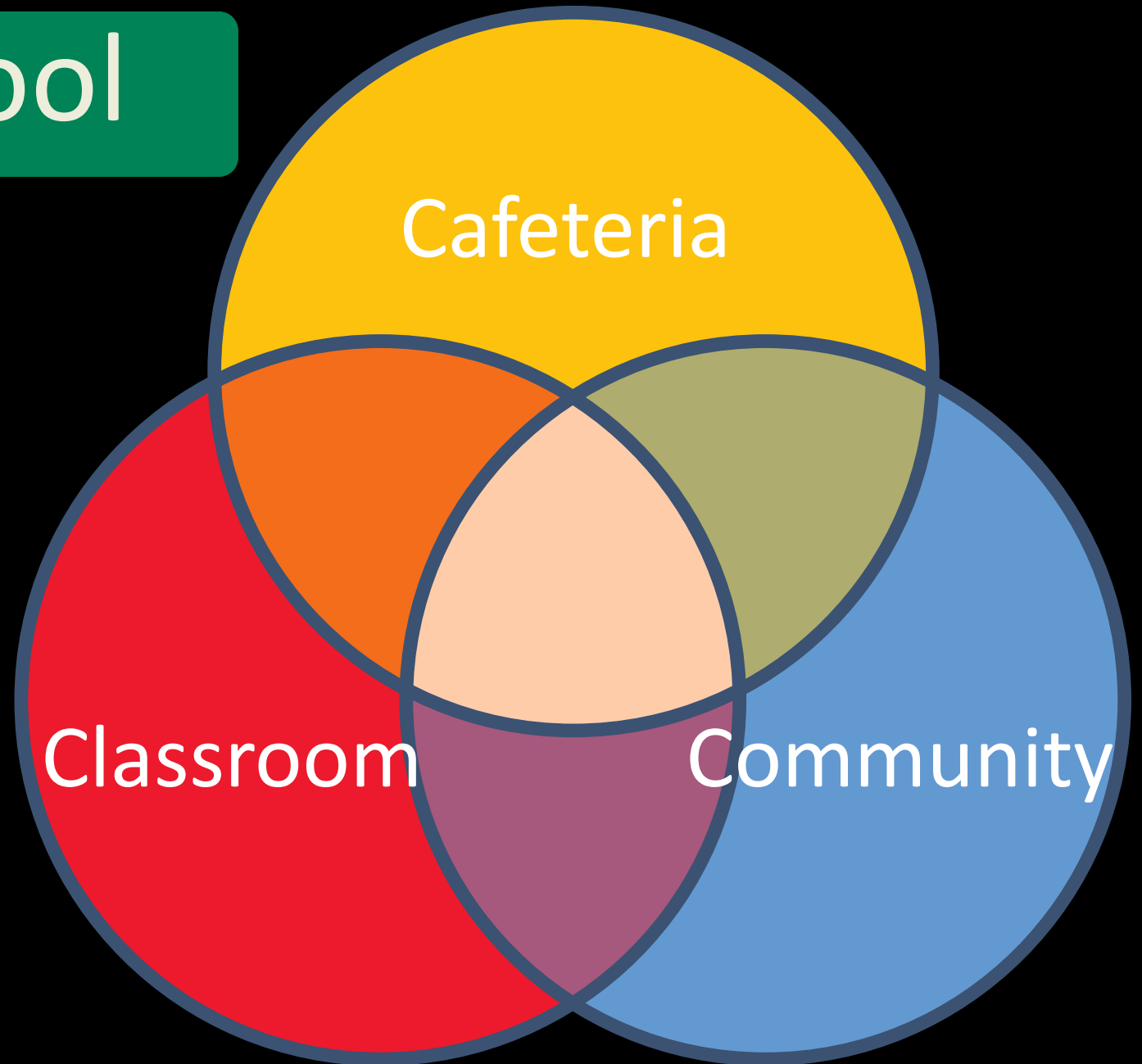


JERSEY FRESH™

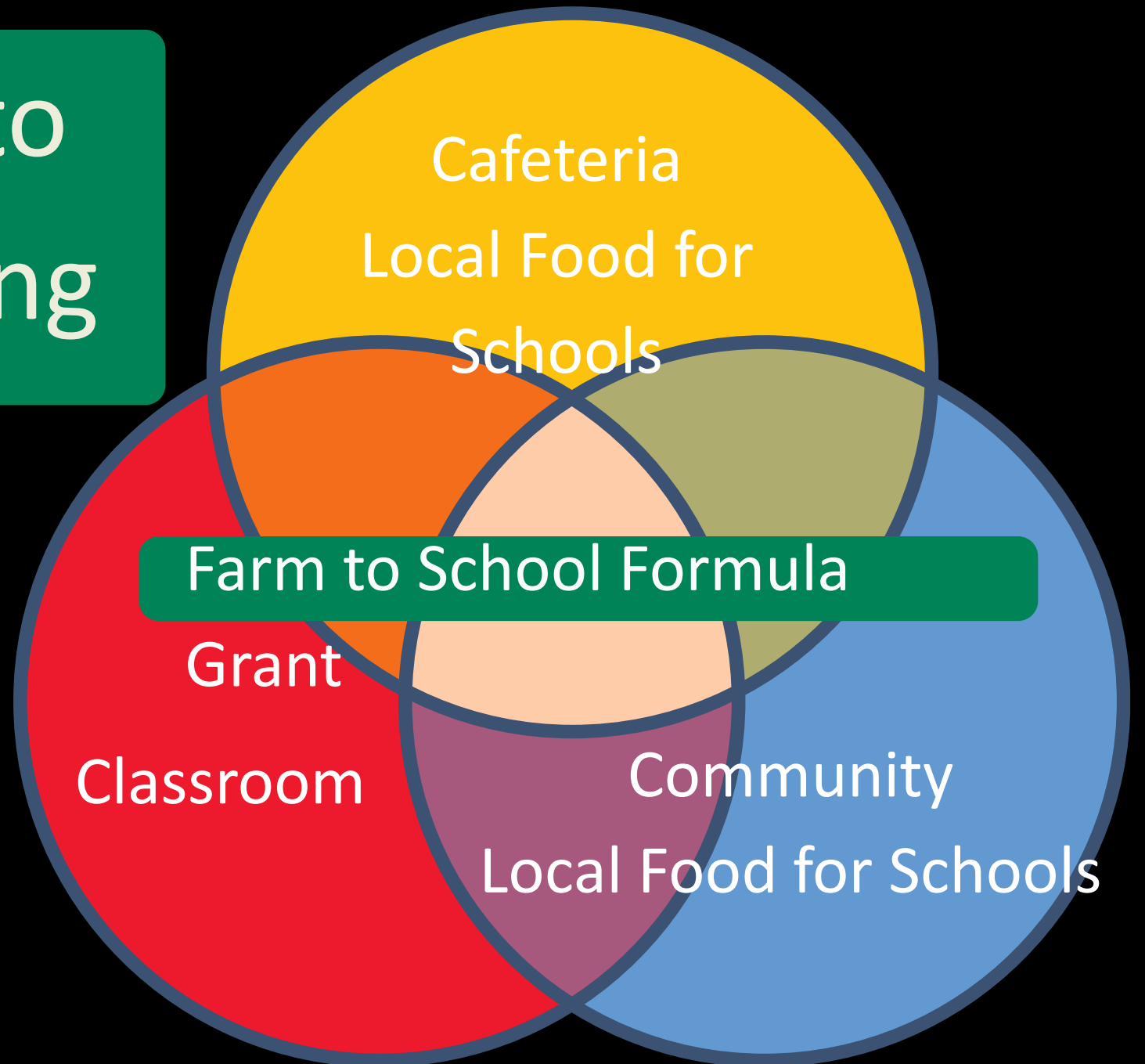
Farm to School

Farm to School

Our vision is to inspire every student and community to embrace a sustainable local food and farm culture that fosters child health, supports resilient farms, and strengthens interconnected communities.



USDA Farm to School Funding





Sustainable Pathways PD Workshops



Local Food for Schools



Spiced Cinnamon
- Fresh Cranberries

Jersey Fresh

Try some apple cider
Today!!
And Cranberries

TRY A
Fresh Cranberries!!!
Sample Today!!!
Delicious!

Jersey fresh
Cranberries
delicious & yummy taste

Westampton School District Student Led Tasting

Field Trips





Best of NJ Farm to School Award

Community



Resources



NJ Farm to School Website



Questions?



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EARNING YOUR DIGITAL SCHOOLS STAR: TIPS FOR SUCCESS WEBINAR

This webinar offers an overview of the Digital Schools program, insights and examples of ways to improve digital school action submissions and earn points to attain Digital Schools Star recognition. The informational webinar will be held on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 3:30pm-4:30pm.**

Register: bit.ly/4dhdj91

2024 MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The next deadline to apply for certification is **Friday, May 10, 2024.** The final application deadline is **Wednesday, July 31, 2024.** View the full cycle timeline on the 2024 Certification Cycle page.

Learn More: bit.ly/SJ2024CertCycle

NJBPU'S COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANTS

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is offering a new round of Community Energy Plan Grants for all New Jersey municipalities.

Application Deadline: **Friday, May 24, 2024**

Learn More: bit.ly/3WcmAt7

TRI-COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY GENERAL MEETINGS

This Sustainable Jersey Regional Hub will host virtual meetings on a variety of sustainability topics throughout the year. The next meeting is **Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 7:00pm-8:00pm.**

Learn More: bit.ly/Tri-CountySustainability

2024 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

Atlantic City Electric is contributing \$35,000 to support municipal environmental stewardship and resiliency projects within its service territory. Join us for an informational webinar on **Monday, May 13 from 1:00pm-2:00pm** to learn more about the program and how to use the online application portal.

Application Deadline: **Thursday, June 27, 2024**

Learn More: bit.ly/SustainableCommunitiesGrantProgram

2024 SCHOOL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The final deadline to apply for certification and Digital Schools Star Recognition is **Thursday, June 13, 2024.** View the full cycle timeline on the 2024 Certification Cycle page.

Learn More: bit.ly/SJS2024CertCycle

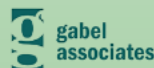
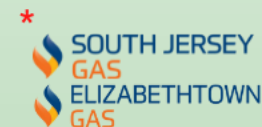
HOW TO ADOPT OR UPDATE A COMPLETE AND GREEN STREETS POLICY WEBINAR

Save the date! Join a one-hour walkthrough on how to create your own model municipal Complete and Green Streets Policy, brought to you by the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University, Sustainable Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 12:00pm-1:00pm.** Registration information coming soon. Follow-up Open House Q&A for attendees to be held virtually on **Wednesday, October 30, 2024 from 3:00pm-5:00pm.**

PROGRAM UNDERWRITERS



CORPORATE SPONSORS



*Digital Schools Sponsor



2024 SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



CEU SIGN OUT



QR CODE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Hold your phone so that the QR code appears in view.
3. Tap the notification to open the link.
4. You **MUST** Sign out to receive CEU credits.

WIFI INFORMATION: 2 Open Networks

1. **sustainablenj**: Ballroom, GS3, Nonprofit Exhibit area
2. **Bell_Works_Conf_Center**: Bell Theatre & Conference

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



Thank You



Rosalie Morillo

Program Manager School Content & Special Projects

Sustainable Jersey

Crespo5@tcnj.edu

Session slides will be available on sustainablejersey.com by 5/10.

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

