The Future Ready Schools - NJ Monthly Newsletter

Celebrating the 2019 FRS-NJ Certification Cycle

The month of October marks the end of each year's Future Ready Schools - New Jersey certification cycle, and there is plenty to celebrate!

Over the last few years, the #FutureReadyNJ community has grown beyond the FRS-NJ team's wildest dreams and expectations. Just over 5,000 educators, leaders, and stakeholders have officially joined the community as members of district and school level Future Ready teams, our supporting organizations, and other individuals across the state of New Jersey that believe in the Future Ready mindset and in best preparing our students for success in college, career, and citizenship in the digital age.

The number of schools and districts involved in the program has grown to over 430 schools from 130+ districts, inclusive of public, charter, and a variety of specialty and independent schools. This year, a record 197 schools from 62 districts submitted for the initial Bronze Tier school certification and another 62 schools from 21 districts submitted for the second level Silver Tier school certification. We also were proud to launch of the Silver District Distinction this year!

Over the last month, we were thrilled to notify and announce the 2019 cohort of Future Ready Schools - New Jersey certified schools and Silver District Distinction Awardees, which are listed in the following pages of this newsletter. We look forward to celebrating them at the 2019 FRS-NJ Awards Ceremony on October 22nd at NJSBA's Workshop 2019, and we hope you'll join us there!

We will also be hosting a number of community-led sessions on the exhibit floor at Workshop throughout the 22nd and 23rd.

It has been an absolute honor to serve the #FutureReadyNJ community! You are all an inspiration to myself, the FRS-NJ team, and the rest of the New Jersey's educational community. You have a lot to celebrate, congratulations to all for your hard work and progress!

- Jeremy Reich, Project Coordinator

Inside this issue

Editor and Publisher:
Jeremy Reich, Project Coordinator, CLEAR & Future Ready Schools - NJ

Community News

In National Ranking of School Systems, a New State Is On Top

Education Week

New Jersey Schools Rank Number One in the Nation in Latest Education Week Report Card

NJSBA

Summary of Resources: Workforce Development

Education Commission of the States

2019 State of Computer Science Education: Equity and Diversity

Code.org

A Q&A with Future Ready Principal Sanée Bell, Morton Ranch Junior High, Katy (TX) ISD

TechLearning.com

The 3 Biggest Challenges of Blended Learning — and How to Overcome Them

Future Ready Schools

Libraries as Student Success Hubs

Inside Higher Ed

Increasing network demands require proactive ed tech management

Education Dive

Introducing the Inaugural 2019 Cohort of the 4 FRS-NJ Silver District Distinction Awardees!

Howell Township Public Schools

Middletown Township Public Schools

Morris Plains Public Schools

Northern Valley Regional High School District

Introducing the 2019 Cohort of the 33
Future Ready Schools - NJ Silver Tier Certified Schools!

School	District
Hackensack High School	Hackensack
Hackensack Middle School	Hackensack
Beers Street School	Hazlet Board of Education
Lillian Drive School	Hazlet Township Board of Education
Cove Road School	Hazlet Township Public Schools
Hazlet Middle School	Hazlet Township Public Schools
Middle Road School	Hazlet Township Public Schools
Raritan Valley Elementary School	Hazlet Township Public Schools
Sycamore Drive Early Childhood Learning Center	Hazlet Township Public Schools
Linden High School	Linden Public Schools
Amerigo A. Anastasia School	Long Branch Public Schools
George L. Catrambone School	Long Branch Public Schools
Long Branch High School	Long Branch Public Schools
Woodrow Wilson Elementary School	New Brunswick Public Schools
Memorial Elementary School	Old Bridge Township Public Schools
G. Harold Antrim Elementary School	Point Pleasant Beach
Point Pleasant Beach High School	Point Pleasant Beach School District
Indian Mills Memorial School	Shamong School District
Bunker Hill Middle School	Washington Township
Bells Elementary School	Washington Township Public School
Wedgwood School	Washington Township Public School
Birches Elementary School	Washington Township Public Schools
Grenloch Terrace Early Childhood Center	Washington Township Public Schools
Hurffville Elementary School	Washington Township Public Schools
Thomas Jefferson	Washington Township Public Schools
Chestnut Ridge Middle School	Washington Township School District
Orchard Valley Middle School	Washington Township School District
PS #1	West New York School District
PS #3 - Robert Menendez Elementary	West New York School District
PS #4 - Albio Sires Elementary School	West New York School District
PS #5	West New York School District
WNY Middle School	West New York School District
PS#6- Harry L. Bain School	West New York School District

Introducing the 2019 Cohort of the 104 Future Ready Schools - NJ Bronze Tier Certified Schools!

School	District
Dennis Township Elementary/ Middle School	Dennis Township School
Lakeview School	Denville Township School District
Riverview School	Denville Township School District
Valleyview Middle School	Denville Township School District
William F. Halloran School 22	Elizabeth Board of Education
Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy	Elizabeth Public Schools
Brooklake Elementary School	Florham Park School District
Claremont Elementary School	Franklin Township
Pine Grove Manor Elementary School	Franklin Township
Franklin Middle School - Sampson G. Smith	Franklin Township Public School
Franklin Middle School at Hamilton Street Campus	Franklin Township Public Schools
Franklin Park Elementary School	Franklin Township Public Schools
Elizabeth Avenue School	Franklin Township Public Schools
Fairmount School	Hackensack
Bee Meadow School	Hanover Township Public Schools
Memorial Junior School	Hanover Township Public Schools
Mountview Road School	Hanover Township Public Schools
Salem Drive Elementary School	Hanover Township Public Schools
Raritan High School	Hazlet Township Public Schools
Keyport High School	Keyport Public School
Keyport Central School	Keyport Public Schools
Elementary School No. 1	Linden District
McManus Middle School	Linden Public School
Elementary School No. 8	Linden Public Schools
Joseph E. Soehl Middle School	Linden Public Schools
Linden School #4	Linden Public Schools
School Number Five	Linden Public Schools
Burnet Hill Elementary School	Livingston Public Schools
Collins Elementary Schools	Livingston Public Schools
Harrison Elementary School	Livingston Public Schools
Heritage Middle School	Livingston Public Schools
Hillside Elementary School	Livingston Public Schools
Livingston High School	Livingston Public Schools

Mt. Pleasant Elementary School	Livingston Public Schools
Mt. Pleasant Middle School	Livingston Public Schools
Riker Hill Elementary School	Livingston Public Schools
Gregory School	Long Branch Public Schools
Joseph M. Ferraina Early Childhood Learning Center	Long Branch Public Schools
Lenna W. Conrow School	Long Branch Public Schools
Long Branch Alternative Academy	Long Branch Public Schools
Long Branch Middle School	Long Branch Public Schools
Morris Avenue Early Childhood Learning Center	Long Branch Public Schools
Lloyd Road School	Matawan Aberdeen Regional School District
Matawan Aberdeen Middle School	Matawan Aberdeen Regional School District
Ravine Drive Elementary School	Matawan Aberdeen Regional School District
Strathmore Elementary School	Matawan Aberdeen Regional School District
Deerfield Elementary School	Millburn Township Public Schools
Glenwood Elementary School	Millburn Township Public Schools
Hartshorn Elementary School	Millburn township Public Schools
Millburn Middle School	Millburn Township Public Schools
South Mountain Elementary School	Millburn Township Public Schools
Washington School	Millburn Township Public Schools
Wyoming Elementary School	Millburn Township Public Schools
Canfield Avenue School	Mine Hill Township School District
Chester M. Stephens Elementary School	Mount Olive Township School District
Mount Olive High School	Mount Olive Township School District
Mount Olive Middle School	Mount Olive Township School District
Mountain View Elementary School	Mount Olive Township School District
Sandshore Elementary School	Mount Olive Township School District
Tinc Road Elementary School	Mount Olive Township School District
A.C. Redshaw Elementary School	New Brunswick Public Schools
Lincoln Elementary School	New Brunswick Public Schools
Lord Stirling Community School	New Brunswick Public Schools
MCKINLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	New Brunswick Public Schools
New Brunswick High School	New Brunswick Public Schools
New Brunswick Middle School	New Brunswick Public Schools
Paul Robeson Community School for the Arts	New Brunswick Public Schools
Roosevelt Elementary School	New Brunswick Public Schools
Norwood Public School	Norwood Public School
William A. Miller Elementary School	Old Bridge Township
James A. McDivitt	Old Bridge Township Public Schools
Helen A. Fort Middle School	Pemberton Township School District

Marcus W. Newcomb Middle School	Pemberton Township School District
Pemberton Township High School	Pemberton Township School District
Pitman Middle School	Pitman Public Schools
Indian Hills High School	Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District
Ramapo High School	Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District
Roberge Elementary School	River Vale Public Schools
Woodside Elementary School	River Vale Public Schools
Indian Mills School	Shamong School District
Brooks Crossing/Deans Elementary School	South Brunswick School District
Brunswick Acres Elementary School	South Brunswick School District
Cambridge Elementary School	South Brunswick School District
Constable Elementary School	South Brunswick School District
Crossroads North Middle School	South Brunswick School District
Crossroads South Middle School	South Brunswick School District
Greenbrook Elementary School	South Brunswick School District
Indian Fields/Dayton Elementary School	South Brunswick School District
Monmouth Junction Elementary	South Brunswick School District
South Brunswick High School	South Brunswick School District
Tinton Falls Middle School	Tinton Falls School District
Township of Ocean Intermediate School	Township of Ocean Public School District
Ocean Township Elementary School	Township of Ocean School District
Ocean Township HS	Township of Ocean School District
Wayside Elementary School	Township of Ocean School District
Wanamassa Elementary School	Township Of Ocean Schools
Brookdale Avenue School	Verona Public Schools
Henry B. Whitehorne Middle School	Verona Public Schools
Verona High School	Verona Public Schools
Early Childhood Program	West New York School District
Memorial High School	West New York School District
PS #2	West New York School District
Kelly Elementary School	West Orange Public Schools
Lynn Crest School #22	Woodbridge Township School District

Featured FRS-NJ Sessions and Events at NJSBA's Workshop 2019

Tuesday, October 22nd

Future Ready Schools: Understanding Your "Why"
Time: 9:30 — 10:30
Location: Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Center
Description: Are you already a Future Ready Certified School? Do you truly know "WHY" you went through the process? Join the Future Ready School New Jersey Chairs as we guide you through an in depth view of the long term impact Future Ready can have on your district.
Presenters:
Evan Abramson, Director of Technology, Millburn Township Public Schools
Wendy Morales, Supervisor of Digital Media Arts and Technology, K-12, Middletown Township Public Schools
Stephany Hesslein, Educational Technology Specialist, Middletown Township Public Schools

2019 Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Awards Ceremony
Time: 11:00 - 12:15
Location: Main Stage on the Exhibit Floor
Description: Are you already a Future Ready Certified School? Do you truly know "WHY" you went through the process? Join the Future Ready School New Jersey Chairs as we guide you through an in depth view of the long term impact Future Ready can have on your district.

FRS-NJ Journey Through The Certifications
Time: 3:00 - 4:00
Location: Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Center
Description: Join district leaders from Morris Plains School District as they discuss their FRS-NJ journey, including the initial self-reflection, the process of Bronze and Silver certifications, and their most recent submission for Silver distinction. We will share reflections, goals, growth, and community engagement that the district has experienced along the way.
Presenters:
Christine Lion-Bailey, Director of Technology & Innovation, Morris Plains School District
Mark Maire, Superintendent, Morris Plains School District

Wednesday, October 23rd

FRS-NJ Build Community & Be Community
Time: 9:30 - 10:30
Location: Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Center
Description: Join as Morris Plains School District shares how the FRS-NJ community has transformed the meaning and purpose of community in their schools. This will include both the benefits the FRS-NJ community as well as the transformation of the Morris Plains school community in alignment with FRS-NJ values.
Presenters:
Christine Lion-Bailey, Director of Technology & Innovation, Morris Plains School District
Mark Maire, Superintendent, Morris Plains School District

Future Ready Personalized Professional Learning
Time: 1:00 - 2:00
Location: Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Center
Description: District leaders in Middletown Township Public Schools will share our new professional learning model that includes opportunities for blended and personalized learning for our 1200 staff members. This model was developed as a result of a need identified through the Future Ready Schools NJ certification process.
Presenters:
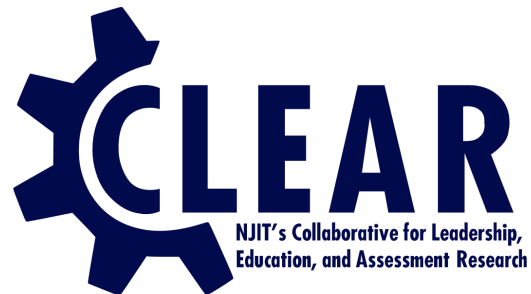Jessica Shaw, Director of Staff Development and Special Programs, K-12, Middletown Township School District
Wendy Morales, Supervisor of Digital Media Arts & Technology, K-12, Middletown Township Public Schools

Introducing STEM for Success: NJIT CLEAR's New Project to Promote Success through STEM

Provided by Dr. Jim Lipuma, Director of NJIT's Collaborative for Leadership, Education, and Assessment Research (CLEAR)

NJIT's Collaborative for Leadership, Education, and Assessment Research (CLEAR) is excited to announce the STEM for Success project!

The goal of STEM for Success is to engage partners and stakeholders interested in sharing their voice and expertise about how to engage women and other underrepresented groups in early ages and support them through their entire career to promote a successful future for all.

By building a community, sharing expertise and resources, and providing avenues to funding opportunities and resources, the STEM for Success alliance will initiate action at early ages, help direct positive momentum, support the networks and showcases that channel efforts at all levels toward a successful STEM career, and network all those on this continuum to develop a cradle to career STEM network of support and sharing.

The STEM for Success project will develop a web portal that hosts resources, connects interested parties with the 321STEM kid's journal, facilitates professional learning, and support for educators, parents, and other stakeholders.

As we build this new alliance, we are seeking interested individuals and groups to collaborate and partner with in order to create the necessary critical mass for funding opportunities that will lead to grants and successful project outcomes. If you would like to learn more, check out our new website at STEMforSuccess.org, join our contact list to stay in the STEM for Success loop as the project continues to develop, follow us on Twitter at @STEMforSuccess, and use the hashtag #STEMforSuccess in your social media posts to start building the community!

Girls Who Code Expands Free Initiatives in New Jersey

Provided by Eve Balick, Girls Who Code Regional Partnerships Coordinator (a non-profit organization)

Girls Who Code is a leading international non-profit with an ambitious mission – to close the gender gap in technology. The organization spearheads the movement to inspire, educate and equip girls with computing skills to pursue 21st-century opportunities. Why? Today, only 1 in 5 computer science graduates are women. Given this skills gap, many women and girls are not positioned to join the high-paying, high-tech computer science workforce. Girls Who Code is working to disrupt that trajectory. How? With our commitment to diversity, our impact is moving the needle -- Girls Who Code Club alumni are choosing to major in computer science at 15 times the national average. Half of these girls are from historically underrepresented groups. We are rising to the challenge to do more and you can play a meaningful role.

After-School Clubs – Join Our Growing Movement
Girls Who Code Clubs are free programs for 3rd-5th and 6th-12th grade girls, creating a meaningful opportunity for thousands of girls to join our sisterhood of supportive peers and role models to use computer science to change the world. Clubs can be hosted by schools, libraries, non-profits, colleges and more. No computer science experience is required to facilitate a Club. We use an online curriculum with which the girls learn computer science and work together to make a project that impacts their communities. With the expansion of our Clubs program over the last few years and the support of local communities, in the 2018-19 school year Girls Who Code had over 6,500 free Clubs nationally. Girls Who Code Clubs have gained considerable traction in New Jersey as well, embraced by school districts and organizations with whom we have created substantial multi-Club partnerships and a number of individual Clubs throughout the state. The

Club application is open and we are eager to expand our Clubs presence to impact more girls around the world and close to home here in New Jersey.

Summer Immersion Program – Deep Dive for Career Development
Girls Who Code also offers a free 7-week immersive program for 10th and 11th grade girls at top technology companies around the country. New Jersey companies across the state hosted five sites this past summer, providing exciting career building experiences for one hundred girls, twenty at each company site. To ensure our programs are accessible to all girls, Girls Who Code offers need-based stipends to accepted students to help defray transportation costs and other expenses associated with program attendance. Year after year, our alumni rate the Summer Immersion Program as one of their most transformative learning experiences. The application for next year's Summer Immersion Program opens in January 2020.

Women In Tech Lesson Plans – Changing Perceptions
To support efforts at the state level to bring more computer science curriculum into schools, particularly middle schools, Girls Who Code created free Women In Tech Lesson Plans. Our lesson plans are designed to help teachers seamlessly infuse computational thinking into their classrooms. Students explore the hidden histories of women in tech, discuss computer science's impact on the world and uncover how they already think like a computer scientist.

For further information about Girls Who Code, visit Girls Who Code's website at www.girlswhocode.com For more information about Girls Who Code Clubs and the Summer Immersion Program in New Jersey, contact Eve Balick at eve.balick@girlswhocode.com.

Reach The World: Bringing the World into Classrooms

Provided by Christopher Ahearn, Director of Partnerships at Reach the World (a non-profit organization)

Thank you for taking us to Antarctica!! @Weddellseaexpedition2019
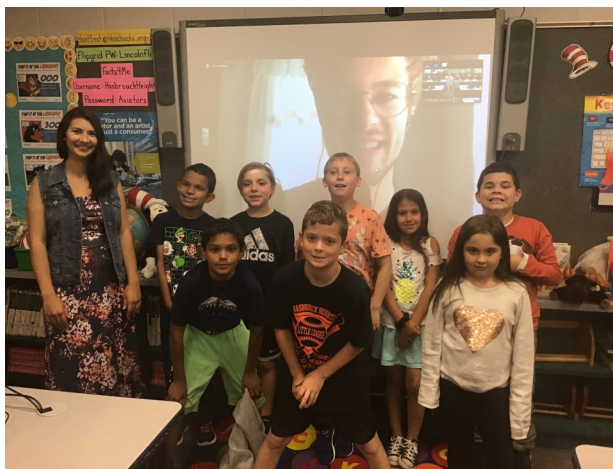
How are you preparing your students to become curious, confident, compassionate global citizens? What are you doing to ensure that your young learners are prepared to take the jobs of tomorrow, today? Reach the World (RTW), a New York City-based virtual exchange organization, is a national leader in bringing immersive global experiences into the classroom through its network of volunteer travelers studying, teaching, researching, and exploring abroad. Participating classrooms take advantage of asynchronous and synchronous content created by volunteer travelers in real time that is edited for use in the classroom.

In the 2018-19 school year, RTW took nearly 500 classrooms on virtual exchange journeys to all seven continents, not only exploring the places but the people and cultures that make each location unique. Last winter, students at Lincoln Elementary in Hasbrouck Heights took part in a journey to the Weddell Sea in Antarctica, one of the most remote places in the world, learning from scientists and crewmembers alike aboard the S.A. Agulhas II. Ms. Capozzi, a School Library Media Specialist and Gifted & Talented teacher at the school said "This experience has broadened our student's horizons by introducing them to career paths that they may never have had the opportunity to be exposed to. Of course they understood that there were scientists on the Expedition, but they learned about all of the other jobs that were involved like film crew, cooks, public relations, and others..." Reach the World can capture the stories of explorers and others as they happen to show students how they can follow in these role models' footsteps.

In addition to connecting with explorers on expedition to some of the most remote places in the world, participating educators also have the opportunity to connect their classrooms one on one with college-aged men and women studying, teaching, or researching in a foreign country. As global experiences are inherently interdisciplinary, Reach the World works alongside K-12 educators across all disciplines to facilitate standards-driven, media-rich virtual exchanges to prepare students to be changemakers now and into the future.

Principal Joseph Colangelo of Lincoln Elementary said it best: "Everyone's goal is global learning. The world is a big place. Reach the World provides a pathway for teachers to get started… Our teachers connected lessons in geography, culture, geology, oceanography, foreign language, history and technology to the expeditions. Real world experience, real world skills." Real world experience, real world skills. Are you ready to join the journey?

Upcoming Community Events

STEM Leadership Forum October 3rd, 2019 Newark, NJ	**NJTESOL/NJBE Edcamp** October 5th, 2019 Lyndhurst, NJ	**Security as a Maturity Process: Building & Developing an Effective Cybersecurity Practice** October 8th, 2019 Webinar
Pequannock Tech Summit October 11th, 2019 Pequannock, NJ	**Leap into Science Wind Workshop** October 15th, 2019 Piscataway, NJ	**Jersey Shore Makerfest** October 12th, 2019 Toms River, NJ
Rethinking Grading and Homework October 14th, 2019 Sparta Township, NJ	**Insight Manville** October 14th, 2019 Manville, NJ	**NJTEEA Annual Conference** October 18th, 2019 Ewing Township, NJ
edcampWL (World Language) October 19th, 2019 Edison, NJ	**EdCamp Newark** October 26th, 2019 Newark, NJ	**The Cost of Cybersecurity: How & Why to Proactively Build a Cybersecurity Budget** November 14th, 2019 Webinar
iSTEAM Conference 2020 January 14th, 2020 Mahwah, NJ	**National Digital Learning Day (#DLDay)** February 27th, 2020 Nationwide	**Personalized Learning Conference Mid-Atlantic (PLearn MA)** March 13th-15th, 2020 Atlantic City, NJ
New Jersey Makers Day March 22nd—23rd, 2020 Statewide Events	**FLENJ Annual Conference** March 27th-28th, 2020 Iselin, NJ	**EdCamp Happy Camper** April 4th, 2020 Washington Township, NJ

Want to share your events with the FRS-NJ community?
Share them with by using the hashtag #FutureReadyNJ on Twitter or by emailing us at frs-nj@njit.edu!

If you see the FRS-NJ icon, we'll be there so come say hi!

Upcoming Program Events

2019 FRS-NJ Awards Ceremony at NJSBA's Workshop
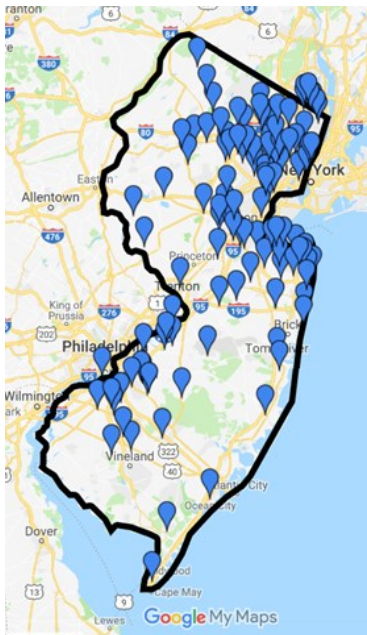
October 22nd, 2019

Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ

Join us at NJSBA's Workshop 2019 in Atlantic City for this year's FRS-NJ Awards Ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments of the #FutureReadyNJ community! Then, join us in the FRS-NJ Center to learn from fellow New Jersey educators who have been certified!

Learn more about Workshop 2019 here: **https://workshop.njsba.org/**

We hope to see you there!

FRS-NJ By the Numbers

As of the date of publication, **134** NJ Districts have officially committed to support their schools' #FutureReady efforts (left).

From those districts, **435** schools have officially declared their participation in the program (right).

Find out which districts are committed, participating, and more on our official FRS-NJ Maps page!

Is your school Future Ready?