



# Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report of Bedminster Township Elementary School (Somerset), a Sustainable Jersey for Schools silver certified applicant.

Bedminster Township Elementary School (Somerset) was certified on August 14, 2024 with 365 points. Listed below is information regarding Bedminster Township Elementary School (Somerset)'s Sustainable Jersey for Schools efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

## Contact Information

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## Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Bedminster Township Elementary School (Somerset) was approved for in 2024 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

### Board Leadership & Planning

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#### District Sustainability Policy

10 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority District

**Program Summary:** The Board of Education, administration, staff and members of the

Bedminster community remain committed to sustainability. The District sustainability policy can be found here (<https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=7461&id=a351dfc744194808be93335028534bce>). Professional Development in the area of sustainability is highlighted as a focus and Bedminster staff members have been trained in areas that pertain to their functions, as well as training on green purchasing and cleaning. Based on student interests and demand we developed two separate committees, one for green team members and one for wellness. Our student participation has grown considerably through an application process in both our Wellness Committee and Green Team. Their passion and roles have also increased as we expand our commitment to collaborate with partners in the community. Students are leading the way for their peers in activities such as food drives, outreach to the military, wellness tips, red ribbon week and culture & climate. They have been integral in collecting daily unopened food that would normally be thrown out and preparing it for donation to our local food bank. They have gone into classrooms to educate peers on recycling, winter wellness, etc. as well. Bedminster School District continues on its path to reducing our carbon footprint through programs and policies, along with student-driven activities and community education and outreach.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - SUSTAINABILITY POLICY](#)**

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL - DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY - RESUBMISSION](#)**

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## Professional Development for Sustainability

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School District

**Program Summary:** Professional Development for Bedminster's 2nd certification was focused on various stakeholders and staff members and their areas of expertise and contribution. By gaining traction with more stakeholders contributing to develop themselves professionally on sustainability within the school community allows for us to provide more opportunities that will support student success and change in behaviors to have a more green centric community. Over twenty district and school stakeholders contributed to learning and understanding more sustainable ways of living and that guides us in offering opportunities for students to flourish and impact the future of our global efforts. Students also participated in the professional development above the twenty district professionally developed stakeholders. Teachers and students are able to collaborate more on specific opportunities where they see a need for awareness and education that will benefit us as a district and our students in their quest to be more environmentally friendly at school, home, and in the community. More ideas are being shared through the new gained knowledge of professional development opportunities so we are able to target needs that are comprised of recycling awareness for our school district. Students are now making more schoolwide morning announcements and assisting peers in the cafeteria to guide students in making better choices with garbage and recycling. The Sustainability Summit in June of 2022 yielded many opportunities to target areas of improvement and new areas of emphasis. We were able to expand our network of individuals on both the district level and school level with professional development to not only establish contributions, but also to breed a strong culture of investment in the goal of sustainability.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LOG - RESUBMISSION](#)**

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## School Community Asset Mapping

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District has developed a community asset map based on extensive outreach and stakeholder interests in helping expand and transform opportunities for students. We have a Board of Education member of the Green Team who spearheaded the task with the chairing representatives. With multiple stakeholders involved, we have a community asset map that continues to grow. More educational opportunities for student growth and empowerment as lifelong learners and responsible citizens continues to evolve and includes working with charitable organizations, educational institutions, recreational places in the community, health and wellness centers, businesses, nutritional food services, environmental experts and community based organizations that align existing efforts and resources to needs of students. Many of these are local voluntary associations and networks, local institutions, physical assets, and economic assets where students develop relationships and benefit from them as a community asset. Relationships with the local residents and parents are included in enhancing connections and offering expertise that support environmental changes that make a difference locally. Local associations offer opportunities for students that are informational resources, or students and their families are recipients of community assets, or students can act as participants. Once the map was complete, it was shared with our stakeholders via social media and the website. The map itself has been used to establish potential areas to share services and conserve resources in partnership with area businesses and municipal offices.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING](#)

## Digital Learning Leadership

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### District Commitment to Digital Learning

15 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School has developed a Digital Learning Vision and Plan based on analysis of the transition to a more virtual learning environment brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through that process, It became evident that emerging technologies was an area where Bedminster Township School District wanted to deepen its commitment. Through staff and parent surveys, teacher common planning time and research with our IT department, enhancements have been made and will continue to improve to give our students, staff and community the access and tools to grow in the ever-changing digital world.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - COMMITMENT TO DIGITAL LEARNING](#)

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### Equitable Access to Digital Learning

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School continues to assess and monitor the accessibility of each family in the district. Through period surveys, internal communication protocols, our new website and computer protection plan, students have timely access to devices

and electronic learning and communication tools. Families who have financial concerns can address it with the school directly in event alleviation is warranted. New students are addressed as they have devices ready for them upon entry and information regarding the computer protection plan is available to them as they enter the district. The results of the surveys were and still are being reviewed with administration if any problems or gaps are identified. Following initial results, Bedminster Township School District took the following measures to ensure equitable access: Prepared and reviewed device inventory. Ensured every student had a device available for digital learning Expanded access to tech support both inside the facility and for those families of virtual learners Provided training to parents, students and staff on Google Meet and Google Classroom Implemented additional procedures and software (Go Guardian) to enhance and support a secure virtual learning environment. Increased bandwidth and wireless access points to properly accommodate the increase in network traffic due to virtual learning

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - EQUITABLE ACCESS TO DIGITAL LEARNING - RESUBMISSION](#)**

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## Community Engagement

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District has reviewed the communications in place throughout the district. With collaboration from our social media providers, website provider, internet provider, IT department and Technology Committee, BTS has developed a communications plan which provides strategies in line with the Digital Learning Vision for the district. Highlights include: Using current technology to communicate with families in an environmentally-friendly and expedient manner, offer digital family-partnership series workshops, providing more virtual meeting opportunities for families with child care issues, professional development for our teaching staff on new and emerging technologies and infusing more technology into a cross-curricular classroom environment that supports and engages students in learning.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT](#)**

## Digital Learning Practices

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### Digital Citizenship

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority District

**Program Summary:** In an effort to support the needs of students and staff, Bedminster has integrated digital citizenship opportunities for students to grow independently within the curriculum. Bedminster's policy documents have been embedded into our student information system, district website, student handbook, and staff messaging system. Students and guardians are required to acknowledge receipt of the AUP and student handbook. The technology plan supports teachers gaining professional development experiences in which they turnkey to their peers when applicable. A Digital Citizenship best practices slideshow was distributed to staff highlighting leadership, learning practices and technology domains. The plan allows for student-

centered opportunities through activities and projects incorporating individual interests through authentic learning, curriculum topics and other real world connections. As a district, Bedminster ensures firewalls and filters are in place to protect students.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP](#)**

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL - DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP TRAINING](#)**

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## Digital Innovative Classroom #1

15 Points

School

**Program Summary:** To support being digitally innovative in the classroom, teachers are able to use their expertise and creativity for individualizing instruction and enhancing group work through the use of technology. In order to do so, teachers must first educate themselves as well as be professionally developed to understand and know which methods and tools would be most effective to improve student engagement and instruction. This example integrates digital tools and technology for informal/formal assessments, differentiation and enhancing learning experiences to improve student-centered instruction. Other tools currently being used highlight engagement and interventions as well as assessment based on the needs of the students. These tools support student-to-student, student-to-teacher and parent-to-teacher communication to help build the school-family connection. Some lessons also include virtual author visits, as well as providing opportunities for digital brain-breaks incorporating movement and student-driven themed activities focusing on reading skills.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DIGITALLY INNOVATIVE CLASSROOM #1 PLANNING INSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT](#)**

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DIGITALLY INNOVATIVE CLASSROOM #1 CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT & PROCEDURES](#)**

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DIGITALLY INNOVATIVE CLASSROOM #1 COMMUNICATION](#)**

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## Digital Innovative Classroom #2

15 Points

School

**Program Summary:** The Middle School STEM technology classroom presented here highlights students taking the lead in their learning, emphasizing autonomy and using digital tools to actively participate in classroom learning. The environment highlights collaborative spaces where students complete individual and paired coding challenges on multiple robotic platforms. Student choice and self-directed learning experiences via Google Classroom and other tools are offered. There is a scope and sequence that is followed and standards are met while students participate in virtual and real life settings. These innovative approaches meet student needs in varying formats and allow for learning tasks to extend beyond the classroom using multiple extended learning communities. Students learn presentation skills utilizing various formats as well as proportional reasoning in meaningful learning projects. To foster learning through the home-school connection, feedback provided to students and parents electronically to ensure an understanding of the student learning experience. Students also participate in making quizzes through student-to-student collaboration.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DIGITALLY INNOVATIVE CLASSROOM #2](#)**

## Digital Technology Access

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### Data Safety and Security Policy

10 Points

District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District is astutely aware and diligent in its policies and procedures concerning data safety and security. Multi-factor authentication has been instituted to our more sensitive systems. This brings a higher level of security to student data. The staff has taken training from Safe Schools (Vector) in the area of both FERPA and cyber security. Collaboration with our outside vendors (i.e. Genesis, Safe Schools, Go Guardian, etc.) and internally between our IT department, administration and teaching staff has provided an enhanced level of security as well.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DATA SAFETY & SECURITY POLICY](#)

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### Digital Device Life Cycle Management

10 Points

District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District evaluates staff and student needs yearly. The current device life cycle management inventory includes information specific to staff organized by room number, devices, ID #s, issuance date and anticipated life cycle of all devices assigned to that staff member and room. The life cycle inventory for students includes distribution tracking by identification number, life cycle, and an optional device protection plan for parents that is also tracked. Examples of devices that are room-specific include interactive whiteboards, printers and projectors. Staff-specific devices include computers and document cameras. Bedminster School District has a digital learning plan that is revised every 3 years. Information is harnessed through various stakeholder groups and spearheaded by the district educational technology committee. This committee is composed of the tech manager, teachers, board members and administration. Goals are set and include tasks, team member responsibilities based on grade levels where there is a need and includes a timeline for project completion. Devices that have reached the end of the life cycle are inspected by our technology department for any possible reusable components prior to decommissioning. As part of the decommissioning process, the district participates in a recycling program to help support our sustainability efforts and reduce our carbon footprint. The third-party vendor certifies the proper disposal and destruction of hard drives to ensure safeguarding of any information.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - DEVICE LIFE CYCLE MANAGEMENT](#)

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### Infrastructure

10 Points

District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School has a collaborative district technology committee composed of multiple stakeholders including Board of Education, teaching staff, administration and technology department. They meet multiple times throughout the year to discuss projects, project costs, network infrastructure, identify resources needed, review system infrastructure and physical plant inventory, review outside service contracts and assess instructional technologies in the learning environment. In an effort to create a more robust wireless accessibility, Bedminster has made adjustments to the bandwidth for ease of access by all staff members along with improved safety and security procedures. Through school and district level internet access satisfaction surveys for stakeholders, BTS identifies areas for improvement and follows steps to address those needs.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - INFRASTRUCTURE](#)**

## Energy Efficiency

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### Energy Efficiency for School Facilities

15 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School worked with TRC in Woodbridge, NJ to conduct an LGE Audit. TRC completed the audit and submitted the results to Bedminster Township School in September, 2020. The results are currently being reviewed to determine what areas are feasible for improvement. Beginning in November, 2019, Bedminster Township School District started replacing existing lighting with LEDs. Those invoices and purchase orders are submitted for your review. We are very excited to confirm that this project yielded a savings of over 13% from 10-2018 through 9-2019 compared to 10-2019 through 9-2020 through JCP & L and nearly 10% with Direct Energy. In addition, the PSE & G costs have dropped just \$800 short of 10%. BTS is looking forward to seeing additional impacts both environmentally and financially as we review the LGEA. In addition to this progress, Bedminster Township School has also installed blackout curtains in the windows. The building is closed on Fridays through the summer months of July and August to save energy. Many of our classes have student green team helpers to assist with ensuring all lights are off each day and between periods when the classrooms are empty. The main entrance to the building and certain areas of the cafeteria, where natural light is prevalent, the lights remain off. Bedminster Township School will continue to utilize the data from the LGEA to look into options for further measures to reduce consumption and costs over the next 12 month period. In addition, BTS will look forward to completing the LED lighting project that has already proven to be effective in those areas.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL - ENERGY EFFICIENCY](#)**

## Food & Nutrition

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### Promote Locally Grown Foods

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District is proud to partner with Maschio's Food Services Inc. to provide nutritional lunches to the students. Maschio's and BTS are committed to promoting locally grown foods to our families. This effort is extremely important to Bedminster Township School District. Not only does this support agriculture in our region, but it also supports nutritional values that we are dedicated to instilling in our student body. To show our commitment, please review the artifacts submitted in accordance with the requirements for Sustainable Jersey for Schools. You will see promotion flyers that were available for parents, the menu for BTS highlighting locally grown foods, purchase orders for BTS reflecting the purchase of locally grown foods and a photo showing the foods packaged for our students. BTS will continue to work with Maschio's to provide and support locally grown foods to the students. During the pandemic, BTS and our food service providers, Maschio's, have remained vigilant to ensure both in person and virtual students continue to receive nutritional meals, inclusive of locally grown foods. These meals are being sent home with students for the days they are not on site and pick up times have been arranged to ensure fully virtual families have access to meals as well.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - PROGRAM TO PROMOTE LOCALLY GROWN FOOD - RESUBMISSION](#)**

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## School Gardens

10 Points

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster School partnered with a local garden supply company to plan and build a garden suitable for students and staff to grow, learn, and cultivate. Garden supplies were donated and purchased to support learning and growing. Students have the opportunity with teachers and through the Green Team to be involved in all aspects including spreading soil and mulch, planting seed and plants, watering and harvesting. Parent volunteers and office staff have helped throughout the school year with this process, including a summer gardening watering and monitoring schedule.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - SCHOOL GARDENS - RESUBMISSION](#)**

## Green Cleaning

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### Green Cleaning Equipment

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District is committed to expanding our use of green equipment throughout the facility. Items purchased in the last 18 months include sweepers and backpack vacuums that meet the green vacuum cleaner standard, scrubbers and a cleaning system for bathrooms that are green seal certified and electrostatic sprayers that are EcoLogo Certified. With research, these products were found to meet both the needs of the school and the



efforts to utilize green equipment. Being a school district, the vendors need to meet appropriate requirements. This did assist in the process as it narrowed down the companies that could supply our building. As Bedminster looks to replace outdated or broken equipment, it is our goal to seek out green products to fulfill those gaps.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - GREEN CLEANING EQUIPMENT](#)**

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## Green Cleaning Supplies

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District is committed to working with approved vendors to supply our facility with green cleaning supplies. This not only makes the school facility more eco-friendly, but it also helps with the overall wellbeing of staff and students, who come into contact with products through the air and surfaces. Bedminster is making a concerted effort to purchase green products. In the last 12-18 months, products such as glass cleaner, disinfectant, degreaser and laundry detergent have moved to those falling under the Green Seal Certification, EPA's Safer Choice or EcoLogo Certified. Bedminster will continue its efforts to increase the amount of products that reflect these green programs and work with approved vendors to ensure cost-effectiveness as well.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - GREEN CLEANING SUPPLIES](#)**

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## Green Cleaning Training & Education Programs

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District directly employs its own Building & Grounds staff. To that end, we have instituted professional development in the area of green cleaning, as is a focus of our district sustainability policy. Our entire building and grounds department of 8 participated in a minimum of 2 hours each of training in this area. This training will strengthen BTS' commitment to green cleaning products and procedures as well as provide a deeper understanding and investment by our Building & Grounds staff. The supervisor of this department is instrumental in annual purchasing of our supplies and reviewing the vendors from whom we order. This training will also enhance the supervisor's ability to ensure we are engaging with the right partners and assets in our community to procure and deliver the best environmentally-friendly products for our school, staff and students.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - GREEN CLEANING TRAINING & EDUCATION PROGRAMS](#)**

## Healthy School Environments

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### Access to Healthy Water in Schools

20 Points

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School has begun to enhance its promotion, messaging and facilities to align with more access to healthy waters in schools. A needs assessment was done and based on that, a plan was developed to address any weaknesses that were identified. Bedminster's Wellness Policy is in accordance with HHFKA and in addition, BTS has added refilling stations since the first one was installed. As stated in the plan, promotional strategies were employed to get more students and staff to not only drink more water, but to utilize the refilling stations and thereby eliminate some non-multi use plastic water bottles.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - ACCESS TO HEALTHY WATER IN SCHOOLS](#)**

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## Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School is embarking on an anti-idling education program for both students and community members to reduce emissions and subsequently improve air quality. Our Environmental Club, under the supervision of a different green team member, began tracking the habits and behaviors during pick up and drop off times at the school. Subsequently, two staff members of our green team, who are middle school science teachers as well, incorporated this in their plans for climate change and research projects. Students researched the subject of anti-idling and its negative effects and performed a lab to determine emissions. Following that, students were tasked with preparing a presentation for the student population, presented during lunch times. It was made available to our parent population and community through our website and Friday folders.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT](#)**

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## Classroom Cleanup Protocol & Practices

10 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** Classroom cleaning protocols have been highlighted in Bedminster Township school. In accordance with the EPA's Indoor Air Quality Classroom Cleanup recommendations, we have updated and enhanced daily and weekly cleaning protocols and practices. In addition, staff has been trained in the updated practices. Bedminster has instituted regular, periodic locker clean outs for grades 5 through 8 as well as desk & cubby cleanouts for elementary school. BTS has continued its practice of outdoor campus cleanups throughout the year to partner with the indoor cleanups. These events have taken place several times during the 22-23 school year, and through social media and our website, have been publicized to the community.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - CLASSROOM CLEANUP PROTOCOLS & PRACTICES](#)**

**PDF: [ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - CLASSROOM CLEAN UP - SUSTAINABILITY.PDF](#)**

## School Culture and Climate

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### School Culture and Climate Needs Assessment \*Temporarily Suspended\*

20 Points

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District maintains its district goal of social & emotional learning. In conjunction with the College at St. Elizabeth's, BTS continues to emphasize the importance of social and emotional wellbeing for both students and staff. Through data analysis and comparisons Bedminster can continue to adapt its approach for both the elementary students and middle school students to persist on the path of continual growth for our school culture & climate. BTS maintains its school culture & climate committees formed from both the staff and student population and looks forward to growing those committees over the next few years.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - SCHOOL CULTURE & CLIMATE](#)

## Student & Community Outreach

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### Green Team

15 Points

 Bronze Required School District

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District's green team is active and growing. Through an application process, additional student representatives from nearly every grade level have been added and assigned specific tasks that align with district goals. Our staff and community members have been integral in the areas of communication, collaboration, outreach and implementation throughout the District and stakeholders. Consistent meetings involving adult stakeholders take place with the student representatives and adhoc members based on projects. Students from both elementary and middle schools work both independently and collaboratively both within their own schools and where elementary and middle school grade level projects coincide. These meetings set clear goals and objectives for the school year and we are looking forward to working towards those goals not only in this school year, but in subsequent school years.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - GREEN TEAM RESUBMISSION](#)

### Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School continues its efforts in outreach to the

community. In-person Events and activities have now begun to re-open and BTS has also capitalized on the virtual events that became the norm during the pandemic. This allows more participation for families who may struggle to attend in-person events. There are more than two sustainability focused events that have taken place and more are planned for the final portion of the school year. BTS participated in the township's annual Fall Fest and focused the booth around wellness and sustainability accomplishments. Student & adult volunteers were encouraged to help at the booth. In addition, the PTO has been integral in partnering with BTS to host a family trivia event for SEL and has sponsored a family partnership series that all members of the school community have access to. These are done in 3 ways - digital presentations, virtual webinars and in-person webinars. The community, parents and students were all invited to participate in the invasive species clean out for the biodiversity project on campus and elementary parents and students had the opportunity to participate in "Traditions Around the World" focusing on cultural diversity. We are looking forward to May where bicycle & pedestrian safety along with asthma & allergy awareness will be made available to all families, students and staff. BTS utilizes social media, on-line newsletters, our website and Friday Folders to promote these events. The PTO also promotes events through their website and social media channels as well.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - COMMUNITY EDUCATION & OUTREACH](#)**

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## **Civic & Stewardship Volunteer Initiatives**

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District continues to support community service and civic stewardship through its requirement for middle school students and through events and opportunities for elementary students. Two donation events engaged students in leadership and learning roles. Our "Pie the Principal" collection for the Somerset County Food Bank saw our self-contained students collecting, counting and loading the bus for transportation. BTS also ran a collection for the Somerset Regional Animal Shelter that was personally delivered to the shelter and students and families who participated had the opportunity to tour the shelter and learn about their various needs and the help they provide to animals. In our community service program, students participate in various different activities such as buddy reading, food pantry work, back to school night assistance and work with the township's recreation department.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - CIVIC STEWARDSHIP - RESUBMISSION](#)**

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## **Enrichment Programs through Partnership**

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District is continuing its efforts to partner with parents, members of the community and external organizations such as The Somerset County Food Bank and Samsara Chiropractic, Jump Rope for Heart amongst many others. Through food drives, Asthma & Allergy Awareness Month, the Biodiversity Project and programs throughout the year, Bedminster has continued its ability to offer learning opportunities in many areas of sustainability including wellness, Social and Emotional Learning, and environmental awareness.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - ENRICHMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS - RESUBMISSION](#)**

## Student and Staff Wellness

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### School Wellness Council

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority School

**Program Summary:** The Bedminster Township School's Wellness Council has been active during the 2022-2023 school year. It continues to focus on staff and student wellness, both from a mental health standpoint and physical health standpoint. With highlights such as our student representatives developing a winter wellness plan and presentation to elementary school and our staff representatives with monthly health tips, our Wellness Council has engaged with our school population to reach these goals. Utilizing Google Classroom allows us to overcome the variety of schedules for both staff and students to collaborate frequently and implement action items more effectively. Our school district has implemented a new website with more capabilities to bridge language barriers and various classroom activities have highlighted cultural traditions. The staff has an internal weekly bulletin with links to resources for various areas of wellness. Yoga is being infused into classrooms periodically throughout the school year and calm strips have been distributed to staff and students. Bedminster has just reviewed applications for student members of our Wellness Council for next year and are looking forward to welcoming new faces in addition to continued collaboration with our current student members during the 2023-2024 school year.

**PDF:** [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - SCHOOL WELLNESS COUNCIL - RESUBMISSION](#)

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### Programs to Promote Physical Activity

10 Points

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District continues its efforts to promote physical activity both during and outside of the school day. Non-competitive programs such as Ski Club and Be Well encourage physical activity in a fun environment. Not only do we continue to offer programs from past years, but we have added components to our efforts, such as open gym nights for middle school and yoga during the school day. BTS also continues to promote township activities such as basketball clinics and "Life skills through bike skills". Partnering with the BTS Parent Teacher Organization, we helped promote a Charity Kickball Tournament with the Bedminster PBA. We continue to participate in the annual faculty / student basketball game and encourage our staff to have "walk and talk" meetings. The student representatives from our Wellness Council put together an informative presentation on Winter Wellness that was shown during each student lunch. Benefits of exercising daily were promoted along with many other items. April at Bedminster School was "Active April" month. A calendar was shared with parents and community members encouraging various physical activities throughout the month.

**PDF:** [PROG TO PROMOTE PHYS FIT\\_20230609103232.PDF](#)

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### Staff Wellness Program

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School District is committed to the wellbeing of both students and staff. In line with this, we continue to implement a staff wellness plan with specific goals. Hydration stations were added to the facility to encourage hydration and reduction in plastic bottles. Our weekly internal “Bulldog Bulletin” is used to communicate resources to staff in all areas of wellness (i.e. mental health, physical wellness and professional development). In addition, Maschio’s, our food service provider, consistently offers unique healthy menu items specific to staff. Walk and Talk meetings are part of administration’s goal towards wellness and staff has contributed to eliminating styrofoam cups by bringing their own mugs and glasses to meetings and staff events. The Wellness Committee meets approximately 3 times per school year and our staff representatives liaise with the faculty to bring ideas and feedback to the committee.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - STAFF WELLNESS PROGRAM](#)**

## Student Safety

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### Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Promotion Initiatives

10 Points

School

**Program Summary:** Bedminster Township School is supporting pedestrian and bicycle safety in various ways. Utilizing our website to reach both the community and parent body through Friday Folders, we have promoted “Life Skills through Bike Skills” and “Girls in Gear” through our township’s recreation department. Additionally, the township has a Hike & Bike path that connects areas of the town, including the school campus, which has been publicized through the school’s social media, Friday Folders and other areas. In October, many of our students participated in a 5K Fun Run / Walk in the township. For our middle school students as well as staff members, we ran a competition - the “School Bike Challenge” during the month of October. In addition, we have encouraged staff to utilize the outdoor campus area for walking field trips and outdoor classes. BTS has included a Walk/Bike permission form as well as a Walking Field Trip permission form as part of the start of school year forms on our student management system. BTS has paved various areas of the campus and is looking forward to installing an infrastructure upgrade with new bike racks to support student efforts in biking to school.

**PDF: [BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT - PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE SAFETY AND PROMOTION](#)**