

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wayne Township Board of Education

### NEWS RELEASE

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*For Immediate Release*

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## **Anthony Wayne Middle School Awarded *Sustainable Jersey for Schools* Grant to Fund a Clean Water Initiative**

**Wayne, NJ** – Sustainable Jersey for Schools representatives announced that Anthony Wayne Middle School has been awarded a Sustainable Jersey for Schools Small Grant. Anthony Wayne is one of 30 schools in New Jersey to receive a Sustainable Jersey for Schools Small Grant funded by the New Jersey Department of Health in this funding cycle.

Principal, Dave Aulenbach, shared that, “As part of Wayne's School Wide initiative working with Sustainable New Jersey, Anthony Wayne Middle School Teacher, Mrs. Erika Kane, wrote and submitted a grant for two water bubbler coolers to be installed allowing our staff and students to refill their water containers and use less plastic water bottles.” He went on to explain that the School's Green Team, “is chaired by Anthony Wayne Middle School Teacher, Mrs. Deborah Mahoney.” Mr. Aulenbach also extended his congratulations to Kane and Mahoney on winning the grant for the school.

Currently, 207 districts and 516 schools have registered to work toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. “Sustainable schools are healthy schools, and schools that promote health and well-being will see benefits,” said Donna Drewes, who co-directs Sustainable Jersey with Randall Solomon. “These grants funded by the New Jersey Department of Health will support schools as they tackle important health and wellness actions.”

The New Jersey Department of Health is funding the grants through its Maternal and Child Health Services Title V Block Grant. Technical assistance to grant recipients will be provided by three of the Department of Health's regional partners: AtlantiCare (south), EmPoWER Somerset (central) and The Center for Prevention and Counseling (north).

### ***About Sustainable Jersey for Schools***

Sustainable Jersey for Schools is a certification program for public schools in New Jersey. It was launched by Sustainable Jersey, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support and reward

municipalities and schools as they pursue sustainability programs. Currently, 207 school districts and 516 schools in New Jersey are participating in the program.

Sustainable Jersey for Schools is underwritten by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program, The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA). The 2016 Sustainable Jersey for Schools small grants program is funded by the PSEG Foundation, NJEA, the Gardinier Environmental Fund and the New Jersey Department of Health. Founding Sponsor contributors are South Jersey Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas and NJM Insurance Group. Bayer Foundation is a Silver Sponsor and Jersey Central Power and Light and Spiegle Architectural Group are Bronze Sponsors.

Sustainable Jersey for Schools Program partners include: New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA), New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO), New Jersey Parent Teacher Association (NJPTA), New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association (NJPSA), New Jersey School Buildings and Grounds Association (NJSBGA) and The Sustainability Institute at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ.)

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