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## **High Bridge School District Awarded \$10,000 for Sustainable Energy Project**

*Sustainable Jersey grant, funded by Gardinier Environmental Fund, supports climate leadership at local level*

**High Bridge NJ** – Sustainable Jersey announced that the High Bridge School District has been awarded a \$10,000 Sustainable Jersey grant funded by the Gardinier Environmental Fund. Two \$20,000 grants and seven \$10,000 grants will be distributed to support proposals for implementing innovative energy projects. Projects range from planning and implementation for energy efficiency and sustainable energy systems to exciting educational projects such as the installation of a solar/wind power streetlight and a school greenhouse demonstrating energy and water-saving design. Most of the projects selected also include comprehensive community engagement, education and outreach components that help ensure that lessons learned and benefits from the project are widely shared.

“We are very proud and excited to have received this award. The funds will go towards upgrading the heating controls in our middle school, a building that is over 100 years old. This will greatly improve the energy efficiency for the district and reduce our carbon footprint,” said Dr. Gregory Hobaugh, High Bridge Superintendent. “We were also able to use a portion of the award in our elementary school Maker Space classroom to install controls which will help regulate the heating unit, again, promoting efficiency and providing an optimal learning environment.”

“There is growing momentum to make 2021 the action year for sustainable energy,” said Randall Solomon, executive director of Sustainable Jersey. “Energy efficiency in buildings, renewable energy, sustainable cooling and heating, and electric vehicles are key to New Jersey’s future. The grant recipients demonstrate leadership and a commitment to advancing climate action.”

“The Gardinier Environmental Fund is committed to conserving the Earth’s energy resources and enhancing renewable energy measures,” said Gene Wentzel, president of the Gardinier Environmental Fund. “We are proud to stand alongside Sustainable Jersey and to continue to fund worthy projects that support our mutual goals in New Jersey.”

Since 2009, Sustainable Jersey has distributed over \$5.9 million in grants to participating municipalities and school districts to help make their communities more livable, environmentally friendly and prosperous.

### ***About High Bridge***

The High Bridge School District provides a strong educational foundation, inspiring students to be lifelong learners. The district values diversity, builds self-esteem, and fosters a natural motivation to learn, while highlighting environmental awareness and cultivating strong community ties.

### ***About Sustainable Jersey***

Sustainable Jersey provides tools, training, and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. Currently, 81 percent or 457 of New Jersey’s 565 municipalities are participating in the municipal certification program and 356 school districts and 978 schools are participating in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program. Website: [www.SustainableJersey.com](http://www.SustainableJersey.com); [www.SustainableJerseySchools.com](http://www.SustainableJerseySchools.com)