

**FUTURE
SCHOOLS**



**READY
NEW JERSEY**

SCHOOL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

April 2018
Volume 1, Issue 3

NJIT
New Jersey Institute
of Technology



The Future Ready Schools - NJ Monthly Newsletter

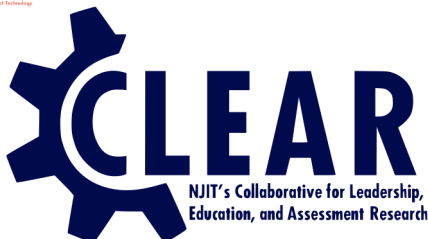
Introducing the Collaborative for Leadership, Education, and Assessment Research at NJIT

The [Collaborative for Leadership, Education, and Assessment Research \(CLEAR\)](#) at NJIT works to align and coordinate educational activities, especially digital and online learning, including curriculum design, educational practice, and assessment and evaluation development and administration. The Collaborative also engages in investigating and developing tools, materials, and resources to support educational research, professional learning, and best practices to foster K-20 collaboration, educational effectiveness, personalized digital learning, and student success through events and products. As director of CLEAR here at NJIT, one of my roles is to conduct outreach and establish collaborations between NJIT faculty and the K-20 education community. I invite anyone interested in learning more about possible collaborations to contact me at lipuma@njit.edu

I would be happy to discuss these efforts more and see how CLEAR can bring together interested parties around research and activities aligned with our common goals as we collaborate and lead in STEAM education and supporting the success of your #FutureReady students.

Sincerely,
James M. Lipuma, PhD, Director
Lipuma@njit.edu

NJIT
New Jersey Institute
of Technology



clear@njit.edu

csia.njit.edu/clear

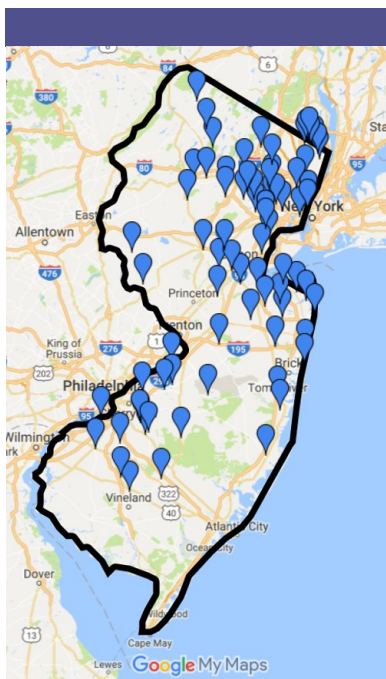
#NJITclear

Inside this issue

Program Updates	2
Community News	2
Community Questions...	2
Future Ready Schools and Future Ready Schools - NJ: What's the Difference?..	2
The First CLEAR: Cradle to Career Summit at NJIT ...	3
Pi Day at NJIT	3
Community Events	4
NJIT Summer Teacher Training Courses.....	4
CLEAR Offices Host PD and Demo Opportunity	4
LiFE: Leadership in iSTEAM for Females in Elementary School, an NSF Project...	5
New USDOE Office of Educational Technology Blog Launched	5
Upcoming Events	6

Editor and Publisher:

Jeremy Reich, FRS-NJ
Project Coordinator, CLEAR
& Future Ready Schools - NJ

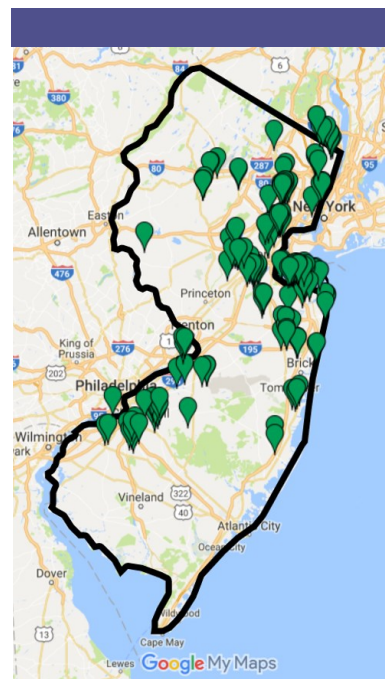


Program Updates

As of the date of publication, 78 New Jersey Districts have officially committed to support their schools' #FutureReady efforts (left).

From those districts, 163 schools have officially declared their participation in the program (right).

Find out which districts are committed at <http://www.frsnj.org/district-commitment>, and which schools are participating at <http://www.frsnj.org/school-participation>!



Community News

[NJIT Promotes Digital Readiness Across NJ Educational System](#)

[One Year In, East Orange Shines as 'Future Ready' Exemplar of Digital Learning](#)

Future Ready Schools releases free [Blended Teaching and Technology](#) guidebook

Future Ready Librarians (#FutureReadyLibs) [Facebook Group](#) hits 15,000 members

Want your news articles featured in this section? Send them to us via email it to us at frs-nj@njit.edu!

Community Questions

Please contact us if you have any examples of coding curriculum that are not extracurricular, but are rather built into the school's general curriculum and courses. Thank you!

Future Ready Schools and Future Ready Schools - New Jersey: What's the Difference?

Every once and awhile, we hear about some confusion regarding the difference between the national [Future Ready Schools](#) initiative and movement and that of [Future Ready Schools - New Jersey](#). Thus, we would like to provide a brief history of how FRS-NJ came to be and how it aligns and differs with the national program.

Future Ready Schools - New Jersey was developed by the NJDOE, NJSBA, and NJIT as an [State Leadership Program](#) under the guidance and the team at [Future Ready Schools](#) as a New Jersey specific initiative and extension of the national [Future Ready Framework](#).

The FRS-NJ [certification program](#) is built around New Jersey's [Indicators of Future Readiness](#), which are built and updated by volunteer [task forces](#) of hundreds of educators and leaders from throughout the state. These Indicators are based on the organization and content of the national framework. This is the main mechanism by which FRS-NJ aligns itself (though it is not affiliated) with the national program.

We promote the tools and resources developed at the national level and incorporate some of those tools directly into the New Jersey certification process. Examples include the national [Future Ready Pledge](#) (the first step of the FRS-NJ certification process) for superintendents and the national [District Leadership Self-Assessment](#), which is Step 2 of the national [5-step process](#), and currently serves as an optional step of the [District Commitment](#) phase of the FRS-NJ certification process.

That sums it up! If you have any questions about this, or anything else that we can help you with, contact us at frs-nj@njit.edu!

The First CLEAR: Cradle to Career Summit at NJIT

On March 27th, NJIT's [CLEAR collaborative](#) held its first ever [CLEAR: Cradle to Career summit](#) (#C32018) at NJIT! The #C32018 Summit was the first major event featuring CLEAR's various activities in K-20 education and was designed to bring three distinct communities together under one roof; the Future Ready Schools – New Jersey community, the educators and leaders involved or interested in iSTEAM activities including the STEAM Tank competition and the Maker movement, and NJIT faculty researchers interested in collaborating with K-12 educators (and likewise).

The goal of #C32018 was to foster greater collaboration within New Jersey's K-20 community, enable educators and leaders to learn about a diverse array of opportunities for their schools, students, and educators and foster a larger networked community of innovative and dedicated educators, leaders, and researchers who share the same goal of broader participation in STEM and best preparing our students for success, from the cradle to career.

The event featured an inspiring keynote by immediate past president of the NJ Board of Education Mark Biedron, who reinforced the need for greater collaboration between the educators and leaders of P-12 schools and higher education.

Recordings will be available on the [#C32018 event page](#) in a few weeks.

CLEAR Holds Pi Day Event for LiFE Grant Students

On Pi Day, March 14, 2018, the NJIT [Collaborative for Leadership, Education, and Assessment Research](#) (CLEAR) held an event for 200 Grade 3-5 students and their teachers from Hillside, Weehawken, and Morris Plains, CLEAR's partners in the LiFE grant (see pg. 5), for a day of STEAM learning and exploration and to share expertise and encourage these impressionable young people to be excited about and pursue STEAM study.

NJIT students and faculty ran grade-appropriate STEAM activities for the attending students, who were brought into mixed groups to participate in a wide range of hands-on minds-on activities. Meanwhile, the educators participated in professional learning with representatives from Apple about programming augmented and virtual reality. The whole group was brought back together for a pizza 'Pi' party after which the educators applied the lessons learned to have their groups of students take selfies and program them to appear on a sphere floating in the room visible with augmented reality seen via iPad screens.

Check out a recent NJIT's [1UP](#) episode featuring the Pi Day festivities!



Community Events

[#EdcampHappyCamper](#)

April 7th, 2018

Sewell, NJ

[Northern Regional STEAM Tank Competition at NJIT](#)

April 14th, 2018

Newark, NJ

[NJASL Future Ready Librarians Round Table](#)

April 11th, 2018

Morris Plains, NJ

[#SpEdcampNJ](#)

April 14th, 2018

Long Branch, NJ

[#nErDCampNJ 2018](#)

April 21st, 2018

Chatham Township, NJ

[NJASL Future Ready Librarians Round Table](#)

April 25th, 2018

Middletown, NJ

[EdCamp You](#)

May 5th, 2018

West Windsor, NJ

[#TCT18](#)

May 18th - 19th, 2018

Lawrenceville, NJ

[Garden State Summit](#)

June 4th, 2018

Lakewood, NJ

[Math and Science Teacher Statistics Workshop at JSM2018](#)

July 28 - August 2nd, 2018

NJIT to Provide Summer Teacher Training Courses

With a focus on providing middle and high school teachers with the latest tools to expand their STEM curriculum, our friends at NJIT are offering several classes this summer with practical applications for the classroom.

3D Printing in NJIT's Makerspace will introduce teachers to 3D industry tools and allow them to create a 3D prototype using NJIT's Makerspace. This one day class will focus on developing skills and providing a resource-rich program of activities to implement in schools.

Introduction to Computing for STEM High School Teachers will provide an introduction to programming, computational thinking, and problem solving using Python and other high-level computer languages. This 7.5-week course will address strategies for problem solving, constructs that control the flow of program execution, and the use of high-level data types such as lists, strings and dictionaries in problem representations. Networks and databases will be included.

Coding and Computing Basics Boot Camp is an intensive and immersive 2-week, 80+ hour project-based program designed to help teachers instruct students in software and security including basic problem solving, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, terminal and source control, jQuery, AJAX, Flexbox and Bootstrap. Engaging teaching techniques and development of a personal website are beneficial outcomes of this training.

To learn more about these offerings, dates, and costs, contact Ryan Mass at 973-596-3178, or cpe@njit.edu

CLEAR Offices Host ELB PD Demo Opportunity

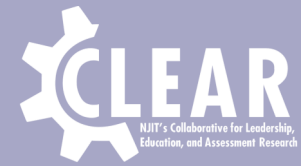
NJIT's CLEAR collaborative is now hosting a [Prowise Panel](#) for New Jersey educators to come to the CLEAR offices to learn how to implement the product and how to use it efficiently and effectively. The model on campus is an Ultra 4K resolution with a built-in PC, 2.1 sound bar, and microphone. It is mounted on an [All-in one mobile lift](#) with 10 points of touch to enable the teacher and students can work simultaneously to ensure collaboration and thoughtful discussion. The panel is loaded with Prowise [Presenter Software](#), [ProQuiz](#), and a cloud-based system that can interact with any internet enabled device for anywhere access.

This PD and demo opportunity, provided by ELB Global and Prowise, is free for educators by appointment. If you are interested, contact ELB's Bari Gersten [via email](#) or by calling 415-680-0229.

LiFE: Leadership in iSTEAM for Females in Elementary School, an NSF Includes Project

“The [National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#) has awarded funding to New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) to lead a new project focused on countering the notion that boys are naturally better at science and math — a stereotype that silently shapes girls’ perceptions of their own abilities in these areas of study. The [Leadership and iSTEAM for Females in Elementary School \(LiFE\)](#) project strives to reverse this trend by finding effective ways to showcase science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) as a collaborative, innovative, people-rich space. NJIT is conducting the project with the Hillside, Morris Plains and Weehawken school districts in New Jersey.”

Learn more about this effort being run by NJIT’s Collaborative for Leadership, Education, and Assessment Research via this [NJIT News Article!](#)



The USDOE’s Office of Educational Technology Launches Blog on Building the Evaluation Capacity of School and District Leaders

On behalf of our friends at the USDOE’s OET:

“The U.S. Department of Education recently launched a new 7-part series focused on building the evaluation capacity of school and district leaders. The series raises important questions about the role of technology in the classroom, and offers useful tips for creating an evidence culture, using evidence to inform the procurement process, creating evaluation champions, evaluating social and emotional skills and emerging technologies and more.

The series offers a unique look, from a wide variety of voices, at the many ways that the education community can help school and district staff be smart consumers of emerging learning technologies. Additional blogs will be added over the course of the next few weeks and we encourage you to [follow the posts on Medium](#) and share your thoughts as well.”



OFFICE OF
Educational Technology

Our Upcoming Events

Are You Future Ready 101 Working Sessions

May 10, 2018

Trenton, NJ

The “Are You Future Ready?” 101: An Introductory Working Session will introduce district teams of four or five stakeholders to the Future Ready Schools - New Jersey (FRS-NJ) program, and engage participants in the process of building digital learning into their school or district's strategic plan. This is an introductory session intended for individuals not familiar with or new to Future Ready Schools.

[Learn more and register!](#)

NJSBA Annual Charter School Conference

May 24, 2018 (postponed due to snow from March 22)

The Conference Center at Mercer, West Windsor, NJ

Join us for a day of training and networking for charter school trustees, lead persons, business administrators, and principals. NJSBA's Charter School Conference will include an opening general session, morning and afternoon breakout sessions, and a networking lunch, which will offer participants the opportunity to participate in round table discussions on charter school leadership. Ask your school business administrator to register you at bit.ly/NJSBACC18.

Future Ready Schools - New Jersey will be there to guide and inform any charter school teams interested in learning about the FRS-NJ certification program and community! Is your charter school #FutureReady?

[Learn more and register!](#)

Leading Digital Transformation: A Roadmap for District and School Leaders

June 7th, 2018

Trenton, NJ

Our friends at the New Jersey School Boards Association are collaborating with Eduscape to bring you this event to bring “a team of up to four stakeholders ready to engage in hands-on activities designed to inspire thoughtful, outcomes-based strategies to facilitate and measure digital transformation.”

[Learn more and register!](#)