



The Future Ready Schools - NJ Monthly Newsletter

Rolling Review and Certification will be Implemented for the 2019 Cycle

Future Ready Schools - New Jersey, starting this month, will be offering the opportunity for schools that submit prior to late June to receive their reviews, feedback, and certification status notification on a rolling basis.

The first meeting of the 2019 Awards Committee was held on April 1st at the New Jersey School Boards Association in Trenton and is now ready to review incoming certification submissions. The review process will continue until late August and final certification status notifications are due to be sent to submitting schools by September 15th.

Submitting early will enable the Awards Committee to review your submission, provide feedback, and submit it to FRS-NJ for final processing far quicker than if you were to submit around the submission deadline of June 30th. Once everything that is needed for final certification status notification is processed by the FRS-NJ team, we will notify the official school contact and announce if your school is certified. This will also provide more time ahead of future submission deadlines, starting with the 2020 certification cycle, for your school and district teams to process your feedback, and to begin taking action based on your certification experience and results.

Submission are final for the 2019 cycle. If you have any questions on specific indicators, please contact us so at frs-nj@njit.edu so that we may direct your questions to the proper community leaders. This option is open until late June, when the bulk of submissions come through and the awards review process will be in full swing.

Did you miss the 2019 Certification Summit, or are just looking to review or learn more? Check out the two main sessions by clicking the images below!

**Panel: The “Why” of
Future Ready Schools - NJ**

**The “How” of
Future Ready Schools - NJ**

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Community News

New Jersey's Educators Arrive at NJIT To Celebrate Digital Learning Day 2019

NJIT

Digital citizenship is more than staying safe online, says ISTE's chief executive

Edscoop

PBS Announces Free Media Literacy Micro-Credentials for PreK-12 Educators

TechLearning.com

Leading from "Why"

ASCD

Rethinking Assistive Technology

Edutopia

For the love of STEAM

21st Century Teaching

Blog by Rebecca Thal

Better Citizens Through Critical Thinking

NJSBA

NJIT Officially Kicks Off "New Jersey STEM Month"

NJIT

NJIT Unveils New Jersey's First Cyberpsychology Program

NJIT

National Pi Day 2019: NJIT Welcomes New Jersey's Elementary School Girls to STEM LiFE

NJIT

Lack of Tech Access Hampers Rural Student Outcomes

THE Journal

Administration and Twitter Professional Learning

Patricia Smeyer's Ed Tech Portfolio

Closing the Gender Gap in the Tech Industry

60 Minutes

5 key network steps for supporting educational technology in 2019

eSchool News

Are Teacher Mentors Essential for Future Ready Schools? Jeremy Reich thinks so.

Room to Discover Blog ft. Jeremy Reich

Workshop 2019 Call for Proposals Due April 1st, Some Sessions will be Featured in the 2019 FRS-NJ

Call for Presentations at Workshop 2019

The Workshop 2019 call for proposals is now open, and the NJSBA is looking for engaging, creative and thoughtful submissions. Proposals should reflect the best practices in education across the state.

The theme for Workshop 2019, “Imagine. Create. Lead,” will explore the limitless potential in New Jersey’s public education system.

The Workshop will take place from Monday through Thursday, Oct. 21-24, 2019 at the Atlantic City Convention Center.

Please consider the following session guidelines when shaping a proposal. These criteria will influence the selection of sessions to be presented.

- What Workshop Attendees Want:
- Sessions with a greater depth of content
- Sessions that focus on best practices
- Sessions that provide tools that can be easily implemented
- Sessions designed to engage and educate
- Sessions with differentiated content for new and veteran school leaders
- Sessions showcasing cutting edge innovations in the education field

Presenters are encouraged to submit a proposal for the following training opportunities at Workshop 2019:

- Action Labs are 90-minute programs, limited to 48 attendees, which actively involve participants. The majority of the time must be devoted to hands-on tasks directed by the presenter(s). On the Program Proposal Form, please clearly describe the program, spell out the objectives, and include a general list of activities so that the selection committee will be able to assess how the participants will enrich their skills.

- Group Sessions are 60-minute programs which allow presenters to provide information for up to 200 attendees. At least one quarter of the program should be devoted to questions and answers. In designing the program, consider using any one of the following formats: single speaker, panel, debate, or some other program structure. If there is more than one presenter, include all of the required information for each individual on the completed Program Proposal Form. These training opportunities are limited to three presenters. Please clearly describe the program and spell out the objectives so that the selection committee will be able to assess how the attendees will benefit.

All Workshop program submissions will receive equal consideration. The deadline for receiving completed forms is Friday, April 5, 2019 by 5 p.m. Those submitting proposals will be notified of the Associations’ decision by mid-June. Be sure to submit the Workshop Program Proposal Form. For more information, email wsprograms@njsba.org.

Sessions to be Featured in 2019 FRS-NJ Center

The FRS-NJ team will select a number of proposals submitted to NJSBA for Workshop 2019 to be featured in the 2019 Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Center.

If you have any questions about this center, contact us!



Reflections on the FRS-NJ Summit -

As a non-profit partnered with NJSBA on the [NJ K-12 Broadband Initiative](#), we were excited to learn from the educators we met at the FRSNJ Summit in February. After hearing from teachers, superintendents, school board members and technology leaders, we were reminded of the critical role each person plays in expanding access to STEM and digital learning opportunities.

Similar to leadership planning and classroom practice, technology readiness requires collaboration from stakeholders from across your district. As you prepare for the certification process, we've compiled our top resources to help you meet the technology indicators so that your network is ready for digital learning.

1. Superintendents and school board members play critical roles in infrastructure upgrades by prioritizing the network and ensuring that it aligns with educational goals. Learn the basics of a network upgrade and how you can support the

tech team in [Network Essentials for Superintendents](#).

2. Teachers play an important role in the process by illustrating the impact high-speed internet can have on students in the classroom. [Our blog](#) offers different ideas for how to approach digital learning, and how to upgrade your Wi-Fi to support those goals.
3. Technology and procurement teams spend a lot of time evaluating upgrade opportunities. To help, we've aggregated bandwidth speed and pricing for school districts across the country on [Compare & Connect K-12](#), allowing you to compare deals to neighboring districts. We also offer cost analysis and templates to help you cultivate buy-in from teams across the district.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to [contact me](#)! We look forward to our continued work together to prepare NJ students for success in the digital age.

FAQs About the 2019 FRS-NJ Certification Cycle

Where can I view the recorded video of the 2019 FRS-NJ Certification Summit?

The recording is available at frsnj.org/2019summit.

How do I get an editable copy of the Board Resolution or School Participation Letter?

After you open the document, click **File > Make a Copy** to generate a copy that you can sign and submit.

How do I get a copy of the 2019 Indicator Tracking Sheet?

[Use this form](#) to request a copy of the tracking sheet for your school's use and submission.

Do I have to re-submit for District Commitment and School Participation (Phase I & II)?

No, if you have been officially confirmed already, you are good to go!

How do I get an editable copy of each indicator's Submission Document?

The links provided in the Indicator Tracking Sheets are to the template Submission Documents. You'll need to make your own copy for each indicator that you intend to submit, and then replace the template link with your own. Make sure to set the permissions to **"Anyone with the link can View."**

The theme-based minimum points requirements don't add up to the total requirement, why?

Don't worry, this is intentional! This allows for some flexibility as to what indicators you submit outside of the minimum points requirements in each theme.

Have any questions that we didn't answer here? Let us know, we're here to help!

Upcoming Community Events

NJTEEA Memorial HS

STEAM Open House

April 5th, 2019

West New York, NJ

EdCampNewark

April 6th, 2019

Newark, NJ

NJASCD North/

NJTEEA: Design

Thinking with Jason

Erdreich

April 11th, 2019

Madison, NJ

EdCamp Garden State

April 13th, 2019

Collingswood, NJ

EdCamp Rider

April 13th, 2019

Lawrenceville, NJ

NJTEEA Unconference

April 16th, 2019

Ewing Township, NJ

NErDCamp

May 18th, 2019

Chatham, NJ

SpEdcampNJ 2019

May 18th, 2019

Long Branch, NJ

NJEA TechStock

July 31st, 2019

Galloway, NJ

Pequannock Tech

Summit

October 11th, 2019

Pequannock, 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

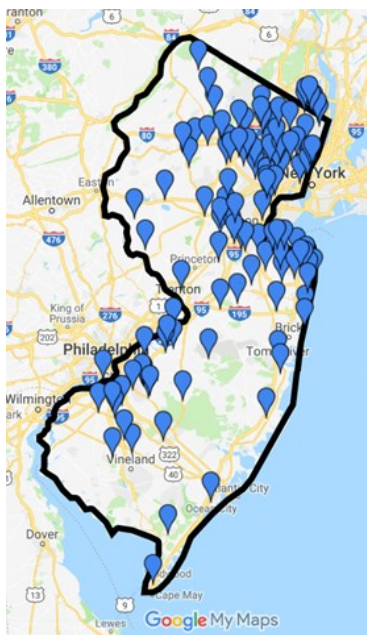
"Are You Ready for Future Ready?"

April 4th, May 2nd (All 2019)

NJSBA, Trenton, NJ

"Are You Ready for **Future Ready**?" programs will engage participants in the process of creating or enhancing their school's digital learning environments. Leaders from schools and districts across New Jersey will network, collaborate, and join a community dedicated to best preparing students for success in college, career, and citizenship in the digital age. Participants will also be guided through the FRS-NJ self-assessment and certification process and learn how the experience organizes, guides, and supports schools' Future Ready efforts. The programs, formerly named the "Are You Future Ready?" Working Sessions, all offer the same content.

Learn more and register using the date-specific links above!



FRS-NJ By the Numbers

As of the date of publication, **120 NJ Districts** have officially committed to support their schools' #FutureReady efforts (left).

From those districts, **382 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?

