

**FUTURE
SCHOOLS**



**READY
NEW JERSEY**

SCHOOL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

May 2018
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NJIT
New Jersey Institute
of Technology



The Future Ready Schools - NJ Monthly Newsletter

Workshop 2018 Registration is Now Open!

[Workshop 2018](#), which takes place Monday, Oct. 22 through Thursday, Oct. 25 at the Atlantic City Convention Center, is the largest professional development event for school leaders in New Jersey. Workshop 2018 will feature a host of new opportunities to learn about technology, including sessions in the Future Ready - NJ Center, and hands-on technology in the Innovation and Learning Center.

NJSBA's annual Workshop convention marks the end of each Future Ready Schools - New Jersey certification cycle and initiates our efforts to update the program for the next round. This year, the annual FRS-NJ Awards Ceremony will be held on the main Investor's Bank stage on the morning of October 23rd around 11 am. We invite you to join us in celebrating all of the schools that achieve certification in 2018 and to congratulate the inaugural cohort of Silver Level certified schools!

We will continue the celebration of these accomplishments, as well as the celebration of the efforts of the entire #FutureReadyNJ community, in the Future Ready NJ Center on the exhibit floor! Join us for important, informative, and exciting sessions led by community members throughout the 23rd and 24th.

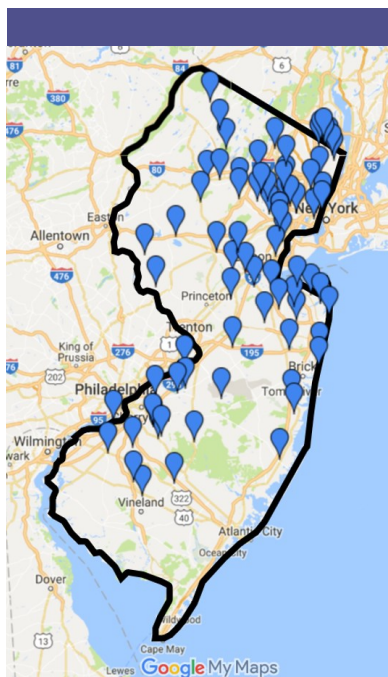
Ask your school business administrator to [register](#) you for Workshop 2018 as soon as possible by adding your name to the district group registration. The Workshop group has been expanded to cover 20 team members (up from 18 team members) including school technology professionals in addition to the school board, business administrator, superintendent, facilities managers, curriculum professionals, principals, and other district staff. There is no extra cost to add you to the group of 20 registrants. Registration must be handled by the school business administrator. See you there!

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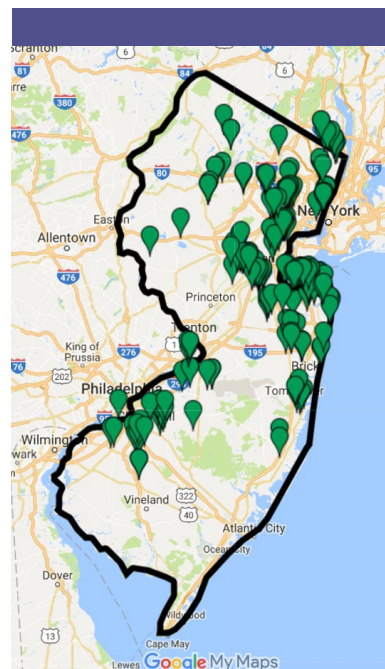


Program Updates

As of the date of publication, **80** NJ Districts have officially committed to support their schools' #FutureReady efforts (left).

From those districts, **204** 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

[Holmdel Endeavors to Earn Future Ready Certification](#)

[New Jersey's K-20 Education Collaborative Meets at First-Ever "Cradle to Career" Summit](#)

[NFL Star Justin Tuck Visits NJIT, Inspires Young Students to Tackle College and Career Dreams](#)

[NJIT Makerspace to Host 3D-Printed Prosthetics Build-a-Thon May 5](#)

[Justin and Lauran Tuck Share Unique Journey to Raise Newark Student Opportunity](#)

Toshiba America Foundation Grants Available for [K-5](#) & [6-12](#) Educators

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

Build-A-Thon at NJIT on May 5th Seeking Volunteers!

Contributed by Jon Adkins

Join AntiMatter, e-NABLE Princeton and NJIT on May 5th at the NJIT MakerSpace to help assemble 3D Printed Prosthetics for those in need of a "helping hand"! No prior 3D printing experience needed!

The event will kick off at noon with a welcome address and introduction to the e-NABLE project, followed by a brief, hands-on tutorial by Chase Quijano of e-NABLE Princeton. We will then begin assembling hands that have been printed by local schools, universities, and other partners throughout NJ. Our goal is to assemble 40 prosthetic hands by the end of the day, helping us meet Chase's goal of 100 hands printed and assembled to be sent to those in need all over the world.

Learn more about the e-NABLE project @ www.enablingthefuture.org!

This event is open to NJIT Students and Faculty, as well as K-12 students and educators around New Jersey who would like to participate. Come see how technology and philanthropy work hand-in-hand to improve the lives of many.

To sign up, contact Jon Adkins at jon@antimatter3d.com. Please let us know how many people will be attending, their names and email addresses, and whether you will need parking accommodations.

We thank you for your attention, and we look forward to a successful event for a great cause!

Saturday, May 5, 2018 – RAIN OR SHINE!
12pm to 4pm

New Zealand Principal Coming to See FRS-NJ Certified Schools as Part of Woolf Fisher Fellowship Experience - A Note from Chris Murphy

Kia ora koutou (Friendly greetings to you all); my name is Chris Murphy and I am the Principal of Methven Primary School. Methven is nestled against the Southern Alps, the backbone of the South Island of New Zealand. For fans of the Lord of the Rings movies, my home is situated a stone's throw from Edoras (real name is Mt Sunday), the capital city for the Rohan people.

Like many schools in New Zealand, Methven Primary has undergone a major transformation in the past 5 years. A fundamental shift in curriculum, pedagogy and physical spaces has taken place in response to our rapidly changing world. Our teachers and children work in spaces specifically designed to enable collaborative teaching and learning, that is, a number of teachers occupy a common space, and work side by side to make sure our children become the best possible versions of themselves. Our school's curriculum and teaching beliefs pull significantly from documents like The Nature of Learning from the OECD; Microsoft's, 21st Century Learning Design and the World Economic Forum's, 21st Century Skills framework.

I have been awarded a Woolf Fisher Fellowship for this year. This is one of the most prestigious awards that can be given to a New Zealand principal. The Fellowship enables its recipient(s) to travel to the UK, Europe and the US to investigate elements of leadership and change management in schools.

I stumbled upon the Future Ready Schools – New Jersey programme on Twitter and was struck by the scope and audacity of the programme. To this end I am heading to New Jersey at the beginning of June to learn first-hand from the programme. I realise this will be getting towards the end of the academic year but I would love to visit as many schools as possible during this time; to meet, to learn, to share and generally catch up on the vibe of what you're doing.

If this sounds like something you may be interested in you can contact me directly at cmurphy@methven.school.nz or through Jeremy Reich at FRS-NJ, jeremy.p.reich@njit.edu.



Future Ready School Librarians and Why They Matter

Contributed by Ewa Elliot, NJASL Future Ready Schools Librarian Liaison, Lawrence High School

Who needs a school librarian?

One of the greatest challenges I face at work is to convince my patrons that we need school librarians. In the past, the librarian was a gatekeeper of resources. Today with more access to information than ever, the job has changed significantly. School librarians have risen to these challenges adapting to the new world of information.

The paradox is that school librarians are often “overused” and “underutilized”. They may be asked to perform jobs outside of their job description, i.e. preparing instructional lessons, assisting students and staff, collaborating on curriculum projects, administering library budget and organizational tasks, and acquiring print and digital resources that match the school curriculum and New Jersey Student Learning Standards (1). Additionally, their colleagues and administrators may not understand the contributions that they can provide to support the curriculum and students’ academic achievement. The stereotype of checking out books and shushing everyone in the library still lives.

A “Future Ready” librarian is very different from the antiquated keeper of a

warehouse of books. To become a school library media specialist (the official title), library science and education coursework is required for the Educational Services Personnel certificate. These requirements make school library media specialists (SLMS) well rounded in many disciplines. Within minutes, they are able to switch from helping a student who is writing a paper on biomes to aiding a teacher preparing a unit on Norse mythology. SLMS are also able to perform searches that go beyond basic subscription databases, finding information utilizing specialized research resources.

As lifelong learners, SLMS are aware of the latest research studies, tools, programs and technology as well as being tech and internet savvy. The SLMS attends conferences and workshops to acquire new information to assist students and their colleagues. When SLMS collaborate with teachers, teachers focus on content while the SLMS delivers information about sources, bibliography, citation, copyright or format of final product.

On a personal level, my students come to the library to tell me how their day is going, update me on their progress, whether academic, or personal. I am more than their school librarian. I am their teacher,

mentor, confidant, and friend. I have an especially good relationship with immigrant students. They look up to me and see that even if you speak with an accent, even if your parents do not speak English, you still can dream big.

School librarians have the skills, tools, strategies, techniques, knowledge as well as passion for information and for serving both students and staff. School librarians provide equitable opportunities for students contributing to personalized learning experiences including curating digital resources and tools, producing instructional partnerships and creating collaborative spaces that empower students to be creators of knowledge. They are the staff that are best situated to help schools become “Future Ready”.

How can your school advance their ability to be “Future Ready?” Does your school district have a certified librarian? Is there one in each building? Is there sufficient space and resources? Does the librarian have the support of administrators, teachers and parents? These are tools that SLMS need to do the best job possible in ensuring that their students are “Future Ready” for their role as lifelong learners and global citizens.

Upcoming Community Events

EdCamp You

May 5th, 2018
West Windsor, NJ

#TCT18

May 18th - 19th, 2018
Lawrencville, NJ

Garden State Summit

June 4th, 2018
Lakewood, NJ

Math and Science Teacher Statistics Workshop at JSM2018

July 28 - August 2nd, 2018
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Pequannock Tech Summit

October 5, 2018
Pequannock, NJ

EdCampHAT

October 13th, 2018
High Point Regional HS, NJ

Jersey Shore MakerFest

October 20, 2018
Toms River, 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!

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!](#)