

Mount Arlington School Students Find High-Value Energy Savings (Morris County)

For the past three years, Mount Arlington School has participated in the [Alliance to Save Energy PowerSave](#) program. With an energy cost savings of over \$11,600 a year, Mount Arlington School is already benefiting from its involvement in the student-based energy conservation program. Students are empowered to conduct a building energy audit and promote energy saving protocol to help the school district save money. After viewing a series of educational videos, students apply their new knowledge to the school building. The audit has two components: 1) a classroom/office light configuration analysis and 2) a heat energy analysis. The students create a database of light readings and use applied math to calculate average readings and ranges. They then make light switch plate instructions for each classroom and the offices in the building. The staff and administration modified their energy use habits and the participating students implemented a "last out, lights off" campaign. They did ten rounds of compliance monitoring inspections which include compliance with door and appliance management, as well as using alternative light configurations. Mount Arlington School District Superintendent Monica Rowland said, "The level of engagement of our PowerSave students in Mount Arlington has been incredible. I continue to be impressed by the depth of knowledge they have developed and the passion with which they approach the real-world issues they are studying. We are very proud of their work and cannot wait to see the new ideas and innovations they develop as their work continues." This summer, Sustainable Jersey's EDF Climate Corps Fellow and a Direct Install program auditor representing New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, went to the school to perform an energy audit. The students were able to share all of the work they had done during the year, what they learned during their energy audits and effectively relayed insights about particular classrooms. The students were led by the dynamic Mount Arlington School educator, Julie Crawford, who also is the school's PowerSave coordinator. Crawford said, "The kids were thrilled to see that their hard work could be used by the state auditor for the energy-saving costs analyses. As an educator, it was meaningful to see the kids share their understanding of the energy grid with the auditor. Mount Arlington School is grateful for the liaison of the Alliance to Save Energy, Sustainable Jersey for Schools, New Jersey Natural Gas, the EDF Fellows Program and New Jersey's Clean Energy Program." Mount Arlington School is one of 38 schools in New Jersey taking advantage of the education and resources that the [PowerSave Schools](#) program provides and is one of 264 schools that have achieved Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. Sustainable Jersey partners with South Jersey Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas and the Alliance to Save Energy to bring the PowerSave Schools program to schools within the South Jersey Gas and New Jersey Natural Gas territories.