

THE PATH TO GREEN SCHOOLYARDS

BLUE SCHOOLYARDS

JERSEY CITY'S PS 29's DEVELOPMENT

Designed with learning tools, teachers and students can enjoy spending a part of their school day outside. The schoolyard is painted blue to help reduce heat and to bring out students' creativity.



PROJECT GREEN TIME



GOAL

PGT is a multi-pronged initiative whose goal is to enhance the City's infrastructure and programming so kids and families can spend more time outside.

Green Schoolyards are a big part of Project Greentime

Health & Wellbeing Improvements

Ecological Infrastructure Repair

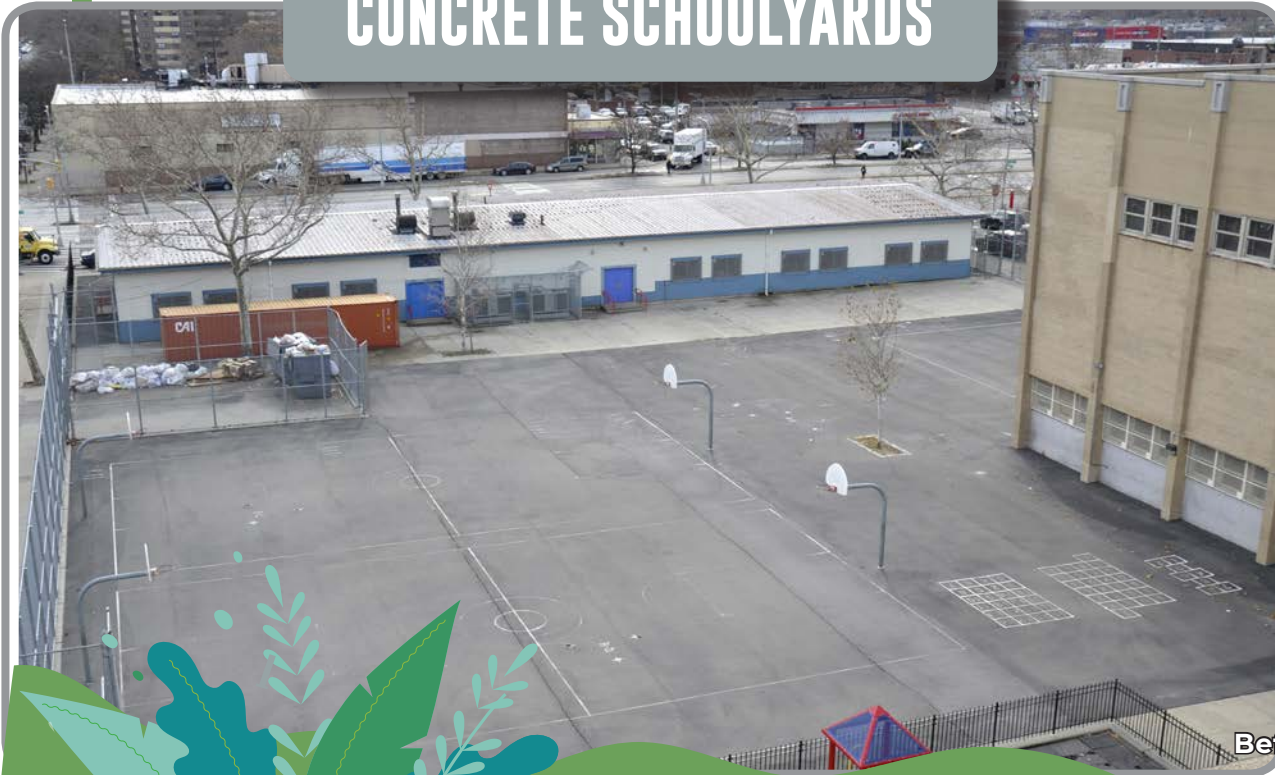
Community Engagement



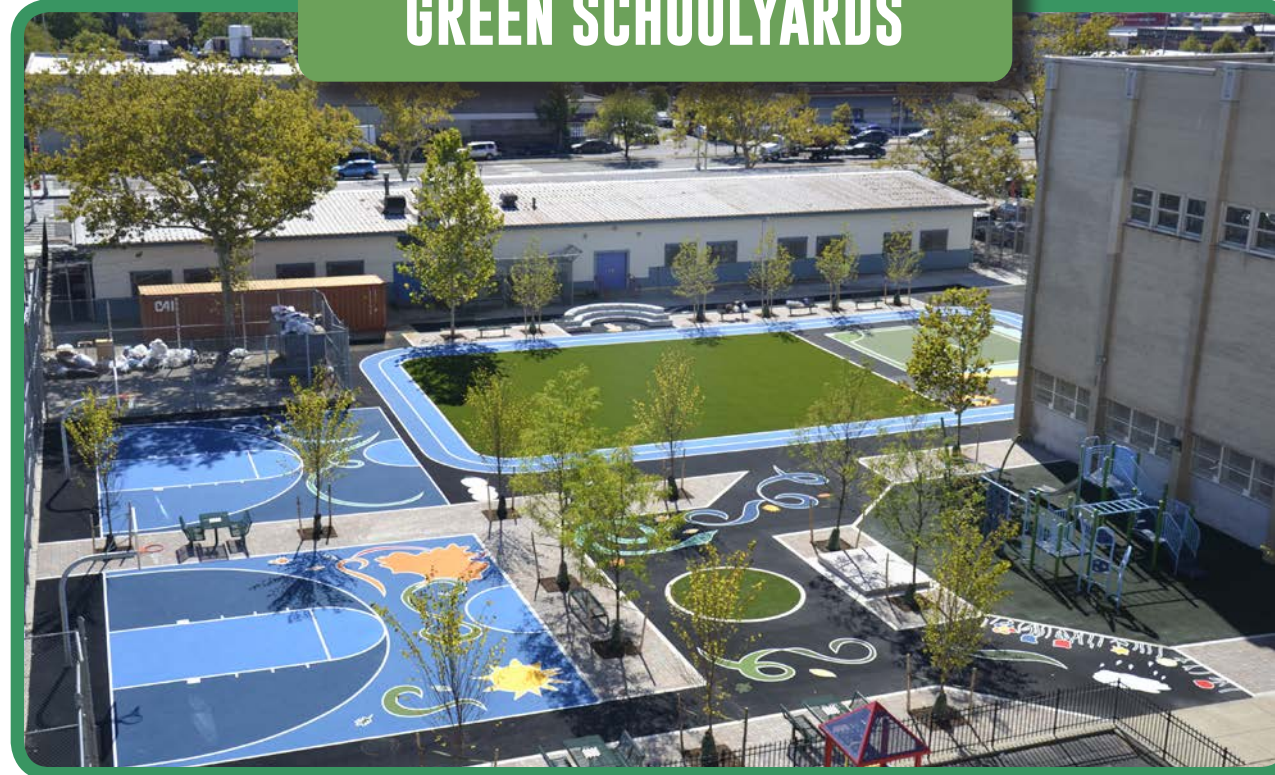
GREEN SCHOOLYARDS —THE MODEL

Green Schoolyards are a national movement that transform concrete schoolyards surrounded by chain linked fencing into parks and open spaces that are exclusive to the school while school is in session, and open to the community when school is not in session.

CONCRETE SCHOOLYARDS



GREEN SCHOOLYARDS



STAKEHOLDERS



This requires significant coordination with stakeholders, who include:

- ✦ Students, Teachers, Parents, Administrators, and Neighbors
- ✦ Jersey City Board of Education
- ✦ City of Jersey City
 - DPW
 - Business Administrator's Office
 - Mayor's Office
- ✦ JCMUA
- ✦ JC Parks Coalition
- ✦ Regional Plan Association
- ✦ New City Parks
- ✦ Children and Nature Network
- ✦ National League of Cities
- ✦ Bloomberg Philanthropies

PROCESS AND VISON

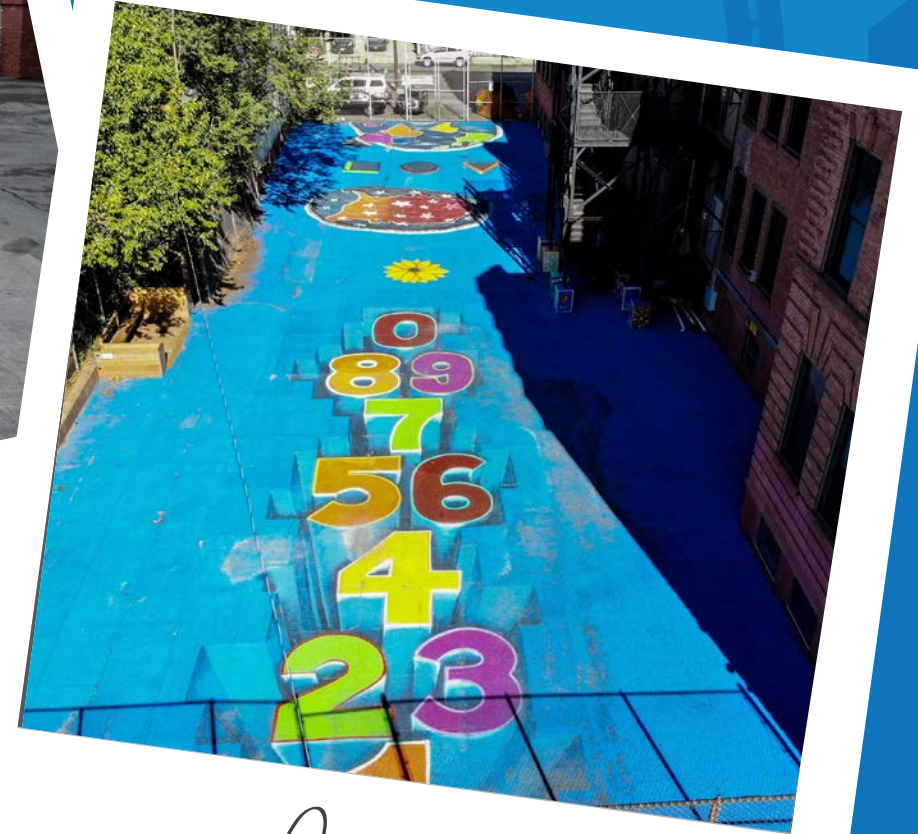


PILOT PROGRAM – PS29

- **BLUE SCHOOLYARD** at PS 29, located at 123 Fairmount, was completed in September 2019.
- **BLUE SCHOOLYARDS** are a step on the path to the Green Schoolyards vision.
- **THE OFFICE OF INNOVATION** created this step to serve as a demonstration of good faith between the school community and the City.



Before



After

PILOT PROGRAM – PS29

PS 29 was chosen as a pilot location for multiple reasons:

- Requested by the JCBOE
- It's size
 - It's relatively small in comparison to many other schoolyards
- It's demographics
 - This community meets LMI needs for federal funding
- Age of students
 - This school has kids from the age of Pre-K to 5th grade, who might be really excited and open to changes at their school



PILOT PROGRAM – PS29

The first steps to PS 29's transformation:

- Remove the trailer and clear the lot.
 - Sanitation completed this step.
- Use pothole killer and leftover millings to fill the ground underneath the removed trailer.
 - Engineering provided the leftover millings they had on hand.



PILOT PROGRAM – PS29

The second step to PS 29's transformation:

- **Painting the entire site blue.**
 - Blue color helps mitigate urban heat island as well as decreases feelings of anxiety and aggression and lowers blood pressure and heart rates. This color is often used to calm children who experience tantrums or other experience behavioral problems.
- **The Office of Innovation procured the materials.**
- **Department of Public Works provided the labor.**



PILOT PROGRAM – PS29

The third step to PS 29's transformation:

- JCMAP found an artist, PAWS, who would install teaching tools on top of the blue paint.
 - PAWS added letters, numbers, maps, and shapes. These teaching tools allow teachers the opportunity to bring youth outside for lessons as well as for recess and physical education.
- The Office of Innovation settled the contract with the artist.
- Link to PAWS Instagram page
www.instagram.com/paws21art
- Link to JCMAP
www.jcmap.org



PILOT PROGRAM – PS29

- PS 29's Blue Schoolyard was opened on the first day of school.
- The entire school community was able to explore the site and meet the school year with a new and revitalized courtyard.



DATA AND METRICS

Presently, the Office of Innovation is collecting data through simple surveys that are directed towards parents, teachers, and students.

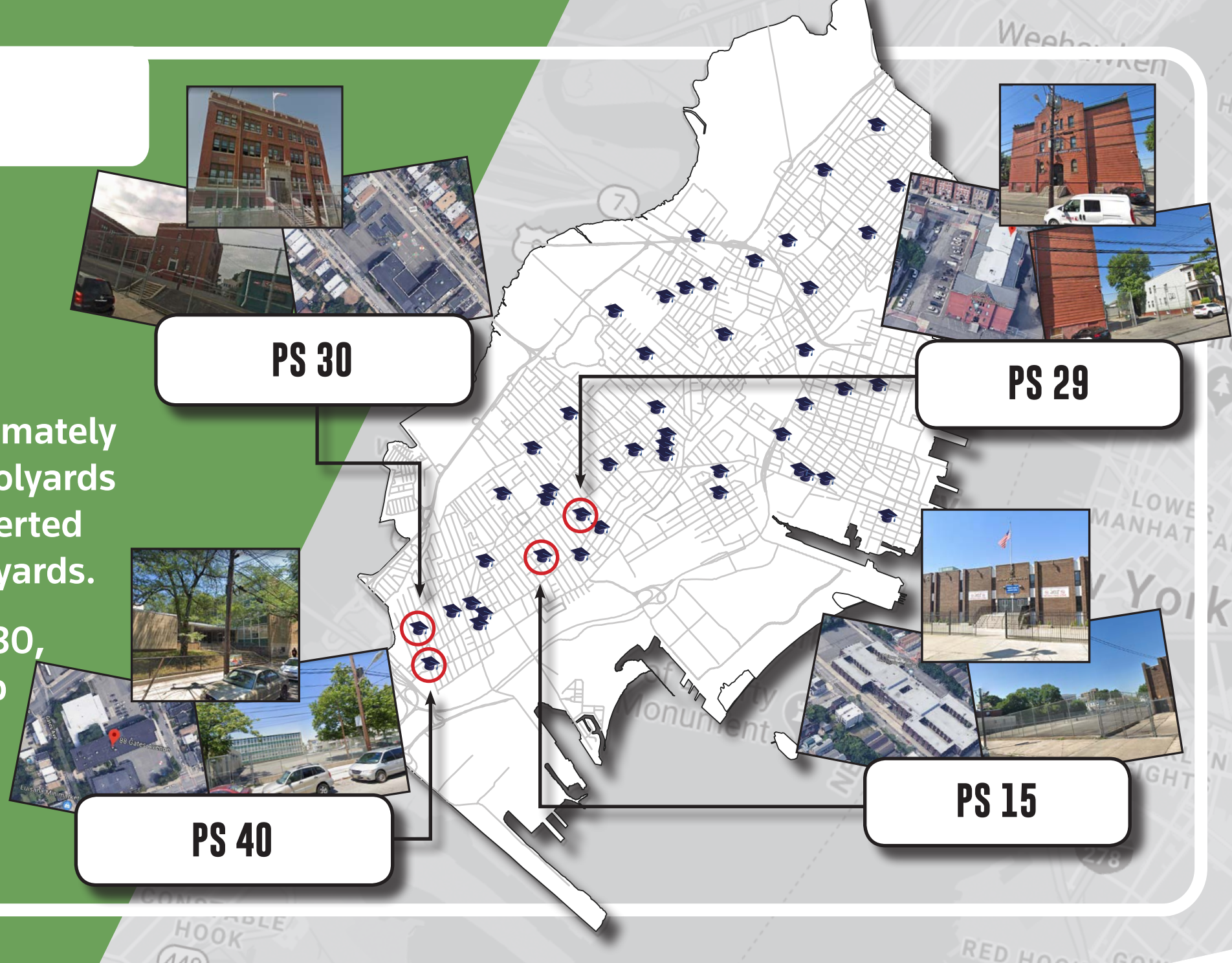
This data will begin a public process where we can better understand what

- features and priorities the community has for the future of the space.



VISION

- Serving 30,000+ residents under the age of 18 as students.
- There are approximately 100 acres of schoolyards that can be converted into green schoolyards.
- PS 15, PS 29, PS 30, and PS 40 are top priority for green school yard initiatives.



THANK YOU!

