

# Report Card Narratives

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## **Sussex County Charter School for Technology (80-7850-960)**

The Sussex County Charter School for Technology is an innovative public school of choice, aligned with the Common Core Standards, servicing 225 6th, 7th & 8th grade students in Sussex County and surrounding areas. A distinctive and dynamic technology-based program promotes active learning and embraces multiple learning needs and styles in a challenging environment. The interactive learning community encourages every student to grow academically, socially, and emotionally into responsible individuals who are ready to make a successful transition into high school.

The Sussex County Charter School for Technology features a community-based atmosphere, emphasis on student responsibility, differentiated and individualized instruction and block scheduling. Since January, 2011 the school now has its own new facility – a stylish and newly constructed campus consisting of a Humanities Building, Math and Science Building, which are modular constructions, and a free-standing, full size gymnasium.

In partnership with the community, SCCST is committed to educational excellence that guarantees challenging learning opportunities that enable all of our students to become lifelong learners and productive, responsible members of an interconnected and ever changing society. We believe the following three initiatives sets us apart from other area public schools:

Differentiation of Instruction with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Focus – changing the pace, level, or kind of instruction provided to students in response to individual learners’ needs, styles, or interests is a major avenue of STEM educational change today. This instruction is both rigorous and challenging to motivate students to push themselves forward academically.

Portfolio Culture – Our educational program operates on a reflective, school-wide portfolio culture based on eight key learning objectives essential to academic growth. This system allows us to more fully integrate academic subjects and link them with the Science, Technology, Engineering, and math emphasis of the school. Through process, students come to understand that learning does not take place in isolated “academic segments,” but rather, true learning is integrated across all disciplines and throughout a lifetime.

Caring Community – The Charter School also employs an integrated character education initiative that supports both the emotional development of young adolescents as well as the development of leadership abilities. As a result, students’ commitment to being kind, helpful, responsible and respectful of other deepens

In addition to these three initiatives our Tech Rotations are another unique aspect of the Charter

School that provides learning opportunities for our students and sets us apart from other public schools. Each year at the Charter School, students have a chance to rotate through courses related to Science Technology, Engineering and math, including: Lab Science, Video Production, Engineering, Computer Applications, Commercial Art/Graphic Design, Photography, Electronics, Keyboarding and Digital Portfolios.

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