



With the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season predicted to be particularly active, New Jersey schools must take proactive steps to ensure safety and minimize disruptions. [The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#) forecasts an 85% chance of an above-normal hurricane season, expecting between 20-25 named storms, driven by favorable conditions such as warmer sea surface temperatures and a developing La Niña pattern.

Important Things to Know:

- Atlantic hurricane season is June 1 to November 30.
- Know the difference between a watch or a warning.
 - WATCH: Conditions are possible for a hurricane to occur.
 - WARNING: Severe weather is imminent or occurring, take action.

Key Preparation Strategies:

- Develop a hurricane preparedness plan.
- Ensure communication channels are in place.
- Regular inspections of school buildings are necessary to ensure they can withstand hurricane-force winds. This includes securing loose objects, reinforcing roofs and windows, and checking the building's foundation.
- Make sure backup power and supplies are readily available, such as generators and emergency lighting.
- Implement flood mitigation measures like installing flood barriers and checking for blocked drains.

By taking these steps, New Jersey schools can enhance their resilience against hurricanes, ensuring the structural integrity of the buildings to minimize costly claims during the hurricane season.

Please prepare for the possibility of an above-normal Atlantic hurricane season. Should an event occur, the NJSIG team is prepared to respond to weather-related emergencies such as hurricanes, hailstorms, tornadoes and floods.

To report a property claim, please complete the property [ACORD](#) reporting form [online](#) or [download](#) and email to foi@njsig.org or fax to: 609.386.2188. Members can also report emergencies at any time by calling our 24/7 emergency line (609) 369-0535.

For more information, visit [Ready.gov](#), [HelpNowProject.org](#), and [NOAA Hurricane Center](#). For more information on how NJSIG can manage catastrophic events, [click here](#).



Don't Let Mold Invite Itself In to an Empty School!

School is officially out for the summer! With students and teachers enjoying their summer break, be on the lookout for an uninvited guest trying to fill the void: mold. The warm, humid summer months create the perfect breeding ground for mold, which can thrive in vacant, unventilated spaces of school buildings. Mold not only poses health risks but can also lead to costly damages and repairs.

Essential tips and strategies for preventing mold growth from the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#):

- **Maintain air circulation and control humidity levels**
 - Use fans, air conditioners and dehumidifiers
 - Provide adequate ventilation by opening vents and air ducts
 - Address any plumbing leaks or roof leaks immediately to prevent moisture buildup.
- **Inspect and clean regularly**
 - Check for moldy odors.
 - Look for water stains, discoloration on ceilings, walls, floors and window sills.
 - Use mold-inhibiting cleaning products to clean surfaces, especially in high-risk areas.
- **Respond promptly**
 - Clean and dry damp or wet building materials and furnishings to prevent mold growth.
 - Fix the source of the water problem or leak.
 - Clean mold off hard surfaces with water and detergent, dry completely.
- **Preventive maintenance**
 - Schedule regular maintenance for HVAC systems to ensure they are functioning efficiently.
 - Ensure roofs and gutters are in good condition and free of debris to prevent water accumulation.
 - Check and repair any seals around windows and doors to prevent moisture from entering.
 - Remove spots and stains from floors and carpets immediately, using the flooring manufacturer's recommended techniques.
 - Ensure that all remediation work follows safety guidelines to prevent mold spores from spreading.

By taking these protective steps, vacant school buildings can be protected from mold during the summer months to ensure students and teachers return in the fall to a clean and healthy learning environment.

In the unfortunate event that your district experiences an incident caused by mold, please call NJSIG at **609-386-6060** or email the details of the event to froi@njsig.org. Please include the contact information for the on-site representative for the district.

More Information:

[United States Environmental Protection Agency Fact Sheet: Mold in Schools](#)
[EPA Mold and Indoor Air Quality in Schools](#)
[Mold in Schools: Overview of State Laws](#)



These upcoming July webinars are hosted by Vector Solutions and are available to NJSIG members as part of your membership.

Launching Training Effectively

July 16, 2024 | 2pm - 3pm

[Click here to register](#)

This webinar will cover best practices for launching training and choosing the right training plan for your institution.

Success Strategies for the 24-25 Academic Year

July 23, 2024 | 2pm - 3pm

[Click here to register](#)

This webinar will cover strategies for kicking off the next academic year with a thorough checklist in mind.

User Data and Leveraging Position and Location Trees

[Click here to register](#)

July 30, 2024 | 2pm - 3pm

This webinar will discuss best practices with learner data and how to utilize position and location trees within the users tab.

If you need assistance signing up with VectorSolutions, please email riskcontrol@njsig.org. For all Vector-Solutions account-related support, please contact support@vectorsolutions.com or 800-434-0154.



Reminder: All Errors & Omissions (E&O) claims are now being processed directly by New Jersey Schools Insurance Group (NJSIG)!

Please first notify your broker of the E&O claim. Brokers should then complete the [ACORD form](#) and provide all related documentation including any filed complaints and petitions, and submit via email to FROI@njsig.org.

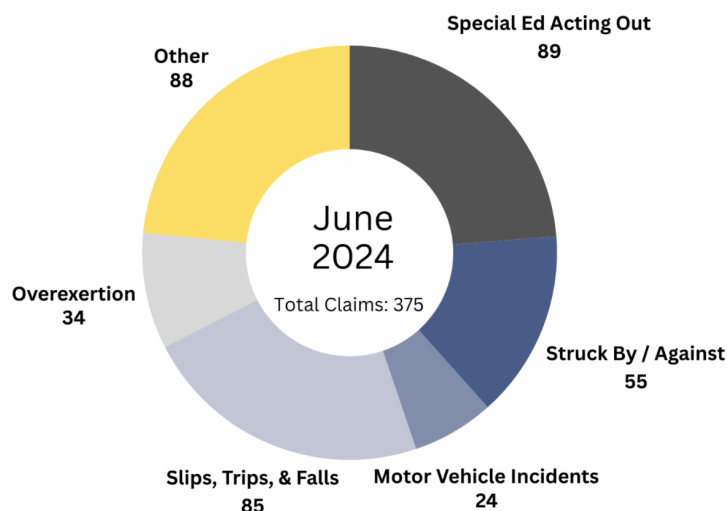


Summer is the best time to schedule a playground inspection!

New Jersey Schools Insurance Group's (NJSIG) vendor/partner H&S Loss Control Inspections Company will provide our property and casualty members with comprehensive playground inspections **at no additional cost**. Playgrounds can be inspected annually by request.

To schedule your playground inspection by a certified playground inspector, email riskcontrol@njsig.org.

Top 5 Claims Reported





Safety Grant Resolutions Due!

Your board resolution or meeting minutes document is due by **September 15th, 2024**. Please upload your documents through the [NJSIG Safety Grant Portal](#).

If you need any assistance with the safety grant portal, please email grants@njsig.org or contact Joanne Gunter, Senior Safety and Risk Control Coordinator, Joanne Gunter, at jgunter@njsig.org or 609-386-6060 ext. 3021.

[Visit the Safety Grant Portal](#)



good news
good news
good news
good news

iLearn Schools has been named the 2024 Charter School Champion of the Year by the New Jersey Public Charter School Association!

This prestigious honor recognizes iLearn's unwavering dedication to providing inclusive, equitable, and top-notch education, with a special focus on STEAM-based learning and hands-on experiences.

This well-deserved recognition was awarded to **four NJSIG members** who are part of iLearn Charter Schools:

- Hudson Arts & Science Charter School
- Passaic Arts & Science Charter School
- Paterson Arts & Science Charter School
- Bergen Arts & Science Charter School

For more information, check out the full NJ Education Report: [HERE](#).

More **Good News** from NJSIG Members:

[KIPP's Newark Collegiate Academy senior receives full scholarship to Princeton University](#)
[Central Jersey College Prep Charter School announces 100% graduation and college admission rate for fourteenth straight year](#)

[Click here to view past SafetyNet newsletters](#)

New Jersey Schools Insurance Group | www.njsig.org

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