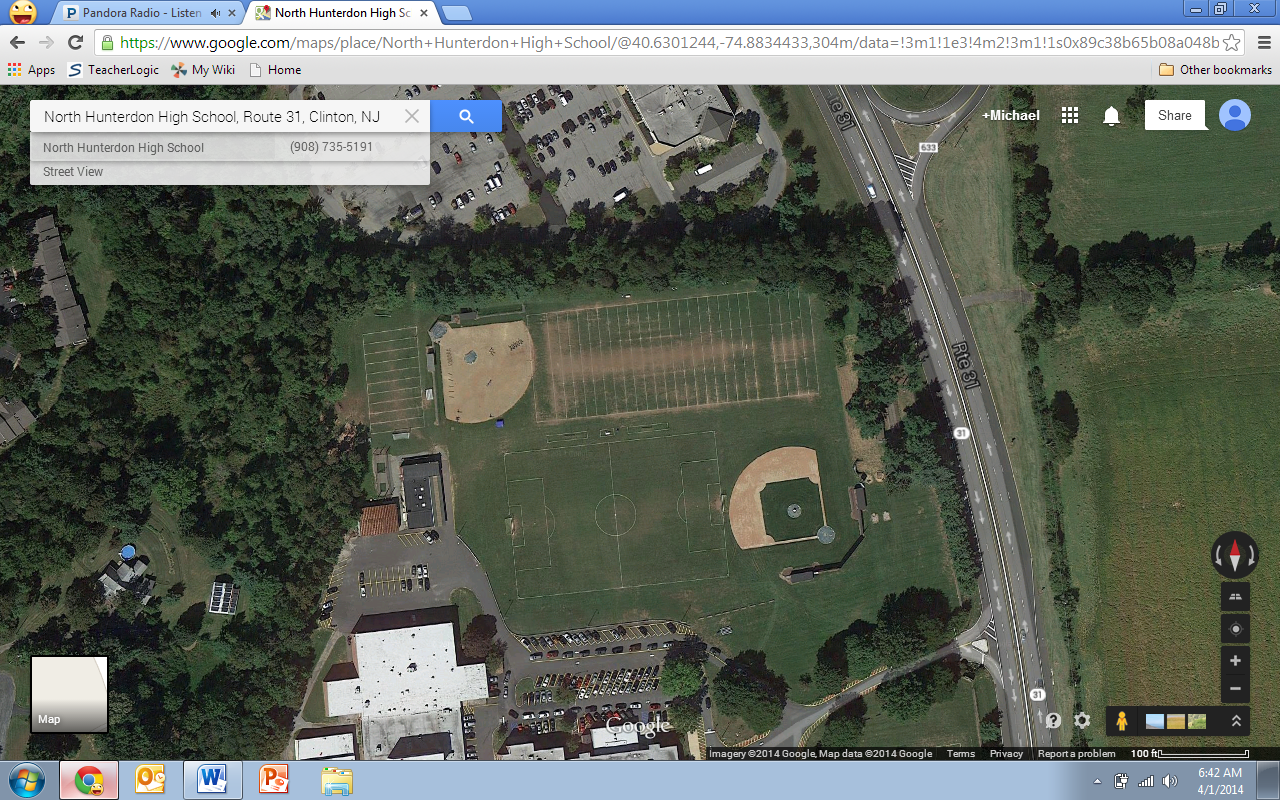
Today we are going to explore our local community and understand if there are different stages of succession on our property. This experiment will cause us to go outside and explore so make sure you are physically and mentally ready to explore!

**Activity: Maps of Succession**

Today you will be going two three different staging areas. You will have to work quickly while you are in each different area to finish all of the questions that are needed. The three areas are listed below.





Grab your sneakers and something to write on because we are about to get started!

**Successional Areas #1:**

1. Use your best artistic skill to draw a map of the local area. What does the topography look like? Where are the trees, bushes and grasses located? Please label the different areas that are going through different stages of succession.
2. Is this area affected by human activity? If so, how is it affected?
3. Is there anything about this particular area that is unique that will affect the timeline of succession? How do those factors change the timeline of succession?
4. Using your knowledge on how plants compete for sunlight and resources. Theorize how the plants in the particular section of ground are competing for resources.
5. Give an example of a pioneer species that might be found in this area. Take a sample while making sure that you utilize methods to protect the organism while you take the sample. After we return inside, used this sample to try to identify the species of plant. List your reasoning below.

**Successional Areas #2:**

1. Use your best artistic skill to draw a map of the local area. What does the topography look like? Where are the trees, bushes and grasses located? Please label the different areas that are going through different stages of succession.
2. This area is different than our first station. Describe how this station is different. Define what that might mean for the organisms that are trying to survive in this ecosystem. Does this mostly affect pioneer species? Does this mostly affect colorizers?
3. Is there anything about this particular area that is unique that will affect the timeline of succession? How do those factors change the timeline of succession? Are those factors present throughout the entire year?
4. Will all of the species that live in this particular area be the same? Will different organisms grow in different places? Why or why not? What factors may affect their ability to grow? How does this change the community?

**Successional Areas #3:**

1. Use your best artistic skill to draw a map of the local area. What does the topography look like? Where are the trees, bushes and grasses located? Please label the different areas that are going through different stages of succession.
2. This area is different than our first and second station. Describe how this station is different. Define what that might mean for the organisms that are trying to survive in this ecosystem. Does this mostly affect pioneer species? Does this mostly affect colorizers?
3. Is there anything about this particular area that is unique that will affect the timeline of succession? How do those factors change the timeline of succession? Are those factors present throughout the entire year?
4. Give an example of a colonizer that might be found in this area. Take a sample while making sure that you utilize methods to protect the organism while you take the sample. After we return inside, used this sample to try to identify the species of plant. List your reasoning below.

**Follow Up Questions:**

1. Identify and explain the reasons why an area that was undergoing primary succession.
2. Identify and explain the reasons why an area that was undergoing secondary succession.
3. Is there a climax community located on North Hunterdon grounds? If so where? How did you know it was a climax community?