BERKELEY, CA
Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD)
Climate Literacy Resolution

OVERVIEW

- Commits BUSD to ensuring that students are educated on climate science and environmental justice issues.
- Commits BUSD to developing an Environmental Literacy Working Group that will support this work by developing an eco-literacy curriculum and professional development implementation plan.
- Emphasizes the disproportionate effects of climate change on low-income and BIPOC communities, and prioritizes engagement of these vulnerable communities.

COALITION

A group that included a student, a parent, a retired teacher, and a School Board member teamed up to become the champions of this resolution. Thanks to five BUSD teachers, who martialed their students and community members, a convincing turnout at a November 2021 school board meeting led to the passage of the resolution.

FUNDING

Thanks to the concerted effort of the School Board member on the team (who worked with the Superintendent and Associated Superintendent), BUSD committed $65,000 to support the development of the new climate change curriculum.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Climate change education will be implemented for approximately 10,000 K-12 public school and career and technical education students in BUSD over the next four years. Additionally, BUSD teachers will participate in collaboration and professional development to support the implementation of climate literacy in the curriculum.

IMPACT

This resolution was the first of its kind because of its inclusion of funding for curriculum development. Furthermore, BUSD committed to distributing copies of this resolution to other school boards to help mobilize the education community to address climate literacy.

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Link to find more information