Oakland Environmental and Climate Change Literacy Policy

OVERVIEW

- Encourages measures to be taken to ensure all Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) students are climate literate.
- Promotes student learning of climate science and history, human-climate connections, and communicating climate science; aligns these lessons with the California State Standards for Science and History.
- Supports action-oriented project-based learning about climate and environmental problems.
- Establishes a working group that will seek funding, support teacher professional development, distribute resources, and make recommendations about a climate curriculum.

IMPACT

This resolution marked the beginning of Oakland's commitment to climate education. Oakland Unified School District intends to develop and pass additional climate policies to uphold this commitment.

FUNDING

OUSD provided no funding with this policy; however, OUSD encourages pursuing financial resources to implement the goals outlined in the policy. The working group has applied for some grants but has not yet been successful in acquiring funding.

TARGET AUDIENCE

This resolution impacts Oakland's approximately 35,000 students and teachers via climate curriculum, project-based learning, and professional development.

COALITION

Joseph Senn, an environmental science teacher, taught about climate policies and inspired his students to take action. Students, with support from the OEA Environmental Justice Caucus, district science coordinators, and the gardening and nutrition services staff, worked together to urge the School Board to implement climate education policies.

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Link to find more information