

eeINSPIRE Webinar: Mapping the Landscape of K-12 Climate Change Education Policy in the United States

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Sarah Bodor, NAAEE's Director of Policy & Affiliate Relations

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[Link to the recording](#)

[Visit the webinar page to view the slides](#)

[View the executive summary and the full report](#)

K-12 administrator and teacher survey: <https://bit.ly/3Tji5ZG>

Highlights of the chat transcript:

- Helen Kuhns, Lynnhaven River Now, Virginia Beach, VA
- Hi everyone! Nicola Chopin, Project Manager for the MECCE Project and SEPN joining briefly from Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis today. Really happy to be here today
- Alex Kudryavtsev (Cornell University EE researcher). Great to be here!
- Thanks! 😊 Ana Leirner, from the Project Learning Tree, SFI team, joining from Northern Virginia.
- Karolyn Burns, Tallahassee FL, The CLEO Institute
- Susan Quincy, CT DEEP Connecticut
- Hillary Harrison, Eno River Association in Durham North Carolina
- Really delighted to be here. I'm Jennifer Caswell with the MECCE Project.
- Glad to be here today! Estrella Risinger, she/her (Association for Environmental & Outdoor Education - AEOE) joining from Huichin, unceded Lisjan (Ohlone) land (AKA Oakland, CA).
- Susan Shim Gorelick, CC4ES, Coalition Center for Environmental Sustainability, in Rhode Island
- Susan Kranz, Interpretive Specialist, Sawtooth NRA, Ketchum ID
- Kimberly Adriaansen: Program & Experience Manager TIFFT NATURE PRESERVE, Buffalo, NY
- Sharon Bagatell, Youth Action Coordinator, Citizens' Climate Lobby/Climate Classroom Curriculum
- Devon Lee (she/her, b. 345 ppm). Sustainability Coordinator, Climate researcher and educator, PhD candidate at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, ON Canada
- Michelle Ramos, Projects Coordinator in IL

- Hi everyone! I'm honored to listen today. Thank you for the opportunity to attend. Sandy Gibbons, starting a position soon, Developed Rec Program, USDA Forest Service, Washington State :)
- Matthew Aruch, Director Global Education, EARTHDAY.ORG.
- Hello everyone. David Helm, National Audubon Society, Wild Indigo Nature Explorations Coordinator @ Grange Insurance Audubon Center in Columbus, Ohio.
- Jen Kretser, The Wild Center - Adirondack Park, NYS.
- Danielle Jones, Hello from the Clifton Health Department from New Jersey.
- Don Haas, Director of Teacher Programming at the Paleontological Research Institution and co-author of the Teacher-Friendly Guide to Climate Change
- Aliza Yair - WA DCYF (outdoor pre-K) and NAAEE state affiliate board member
- NAAEE Staff, Anne Umali (she, her):

Coalition for Climate Education Policy

Join the Coalition for Climate Education Policy to advance climate literacy and justice

<https://www.climateedpolicy.org/>

eePRO Discussion Group

Join this group to discuss how we can use EE as a platform to leverage support for climate change education.

<https://naaee.org/eepro/groups/climate-change-education>

What works in climate change education (eeWORKS: Martha Monroe)

Learn which educational strategies help create effective education to address climate change and the role of outreach in helping communities adapt.

<https://naaee.org/eepro/research/eeworks/climate-change>

Climate Choices: Deliberation

Climate Choices: Moderator Resources and Background Information

<https://naaee.org/our-work/programs/environmental-issues-forums/eif-resources>

- Glad to be here, Nancy Metzger-Carter with Schools for Climate Action. 😊
- James Callahan, Lowell School Washington DC, Climate Education and Action Specialist. Mobile Climate Science Labs in DC, MD, VA, and California. Multiple schools and districts. Students teams taking STEM-based climate action on national and local levels. (US Capitol Building, Smithsonian Museums and California science museums. Young women and people of color: innovative leaders in climate action and social justice. Proving what is possible when MECCE recommendations are successfully implemented.
- Will you make the slides and recording available? I would love to use this webinar for school research
- NAAEE Staff, Anne Umali (she, her): Yes, everyone will get the slides & the recording!
- Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE, Here's a link to the executive summary and full report.
<https://naaee.org/eepro/resources/mapping-landscape-k-12-climate-change>
- Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Please add any questions or thoughts you have in the chat! :-) We'll take time at the end to get to as many as possible. And this is a

- start--we'd love to do more, including the US Territories, and use this as a baseline to build on.
- Don Haas: Which states are funding PD?
- Ana Leirner: Great question, @Don.
- Karolyn Burns: How can we best reach out to non-STEM teachers for climate-related PD? civic action, climate/environmental justice, and persuasive writing are all important to incorporate into climate change education via ELA, social studies, etc
- Susan Quincy: CT is providing PD but there is no specific funding attached to policies. This is my next request from Legislature requests.
- Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Washington State is one that has helped support PD, but there are others are well!
- Susan Quincy: Is there a plan to review the data for 2025 or some time to see the rate of change and areas that were addressed?
- James Callahan: How can students, teachers and informal educators that are leaders in climate education and action better help policy analysts going forward?
- Melissa Pennett: How can data help drive this? What data is missing from states to further this effort!
- Susan Quincy: Can we get data on these areas for our specific states?
- Kathryn Kurtz: WA state allocated 6 Million last session for teacher professional development through our CLimeTIme initiative <https://www.climetime.org/>
- NAAEE Staff, Anne Umali (she, her):K-12 administrator and teacher survey: <https://bit.ly/3Tji5ZG>
- nancy metzger-carter: Will this report alter the policy agenda of the Coalition for Climate Education Policy?
- Alex Kudryavtsev: Research shows that teachers feel more agency when they act on goals that are important to them, and willing to implement in their teaching practices if they contribute their expertise. What policies have you found that enable teachers to influence climate change curricula, content, and school-based actions?
- Brock Adler: Maine does this very well.
- nancy metzger-carter: Students in Berkeley wrote the district climate literacy initiative 😊
- James Callahan: @Karolyn. What you raise is so important and is in sync with MECCE / NAAEE recommendations. Our experience confirms the power of holistic education and action. Our approach brings STEM, ELA, visual arts, social sciences and informal education together.
- Don Haas: The National Council of Teachers of English has both a position statement and a book on teaching climate in the ELA classroom
- Karolyn Burns: @James, that's why we call our PD program "Climate Across the Curriculum." We do have difficulty recruiting humanities teachers to join

- James Callahan: Students learn to communicate and persuade effectively. Such as successfully making the US Capitol Building more energy efficient. That requires writing, speaking, SEL and so much more.
- @Karolyn We can work on that together. Across the states. :-)
- Don Haas: Interdisciplinary resources for teaching climate change here: <http://bit.ly/InterdisciplinaryClimate>
- nancy metzger-carter: Schools for Climate Action supports students/teachers to pass school district climate action resolutions in school districts- often including climate literacy, and creating district climate action task forces. <http://schoolsforclimateaction.weebly.com/>
- Cari Herndon: Loved working with Schools for Climate Action in 2019. Kids felt empowered and capable of making an impact.
- Kristian Gareau: The UK has a very interesting project where all school lands have been turned into a national park
- James Callahan: Important points! Learning from experience. How did the fossil fuel industry pull this off? California's initial program to environmental literacy for all of K-12...had as its editor a long-time contractor for Chevron and other oil companies. (PR around oil spills)
- Sharon Bagatell: Citizens' Climate Lobby has a newly launched Climate Classroom curriculum for middle school -- multidisciplinary and focused on action, civic engagement and personal empowerment. www.cclusa.org/curriculum
- nancy metzger-carter: Cari! Yay! We'll be back in DC on 9/22 and 9/23 focusing on youth mental health and climate change. Email me at nancy@schoolsforclimate.org
- Alex Kudryavtsev: I totally agree with Kristen -- if you attach more "ecological" meanings to your places (including places around your school/neighborhood), you'll be more likely to protect these meanings/values by taking environmental actions.
- nancy metzger-carter: Thank you for your focus on SEL and climate ed! 😊
- Ana Leirner: Thank you so much! Excellent work!
- Jen Kretser: Thank you so much!
- Alex Kudryavtsev: Sarah and Kristen, thank you so much!!! 😊
- Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Thanks for all the wonderful links, resources, and ideas!
- nancy metzger-carter: 🙌
- David Helm: Thank you so much!
- James Callahan: Thank you, MECCE! Thank you NAAEE! Everyone!
- KIMBERLY ADRIAANSEN: Thank you for your expertise!
- Brock Adler: Thank you all!
- Colleen Norton: Thank you!
- Cari Herndon: Thank you!
- Elvis Mimba Yuniseh: happy to be here
- Estrella Risinger: Thank you for this important work!

- Kathryn Kurtz: Thanks for the nice policy analysis!
- Elvis Mimba Yuniseh: My first time and I did learn a lot
- Kathryn Riley: Thank you everyone!
- Elvis Mimba Yuniseh: great survey questions too
- Michelle Ramos: This has been so insightful and EEAI is thankful for all the resources!!