

CLIMATE ACTION RESOLUTION FOR THE COALITION OF PUBLIC INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, we represent schools across the United States

WHEREAS, we believe that our schools need to prepare students to positively shape the world

WHEREAS, youth across the globe are taking action against violence

WHEREAS, climate change is a social justice and equity issue that disproportionately impacts young people, people of color, indigenous people, and people in poverty, thereby exacerbating existing inequalities

WHEREAS, we believe it is crucial to advocate for climate action to curtail one of the greatest threats facing communities throughout the world

WHEREAS, there is a broad scientific consensus among climate scientists that human activities, contributing to increases in greenhouse gas emissions, are the dominant cause in climate change

WHEREAS, the global impact, urgency, and magnitude of the challenge of addressing climate change calls for leadership in all sectors of society, all institutions and all elected leaders

WHEREAS, more than 105 school boards and student councils have passed non-partisan climate action resolutions nationally;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Coalition of Public Independent Charter Schools will address these issues by adopting the following at its annual membership meeting:

1. The CPICS Statement of Principles shall include the urgency of addressing the climate crisis.
2. The governing boards of CPICS member schools, as public institutions charged with the welfare of children, shall
 - a) declare that climate change is generational justice issue;
 - b) call on Congress to take action and end 30 years of climate neglect by enacting national policies to restore the climate for the good of young people and future generations;
 - c) support the divestment of extractive or pollutive industries;
 - d) support initiatives to address the climate crisis, such as:
 - Switching to clean energy providers
 - Implementing recycling and compost programs
 - Practicing environmentally sustainable building design and development, land use and waste disposal when possible
 - Cultivating a campus garden to teach sustainable agricultural practices
 - Implementing land-based learning curriculum that provides students opportunities to learn directly from the natural environment before these opportunities are lost to the climate crisis.
 - e) strive to achieve 100% renewables and carbon-neutrality by 2030, in accordance with the UN-IPCC guidelines¹, with equity, racial, economic, environmental justice and community solutions at the center;
 - f) pledge to support students and their activism by providing them with the tools to become more effective advocates.
3. CPICS will integrate climate literacy into its certification process by 2021.

1 <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>