

Climate Resolution Motion
Passed by BOE at September 26, 2022 Meeting

[Full New Haven Climate Movement's NHBOE Emergency Climate Resolution is at https://www.newhavenclimatemovement.org/files/ugd/3d012b_fc12e8fd973246479b3571bc44896d49.pdf]

I move that we adopt and approve the action items of the New Haven Climate Movement's NHBOE Emergency Climate Resolution (listed below), and direct that all items are reported on in the April 26, 2023, BOE meeting:

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the New Haven Board of Education takes immediate actions to mitigate climate change by reducing the carbon footprint and ensure an effective transition to clean energy and sustainable operations.

1. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will attempt to mobilize appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from City, state and federal authorities, and will aim to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 100% on or before December 31, 2030, reflecting the United Nations' "now or never" urgency to act.

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance & Operations Committee will aim to create a plan within six months of passage of this Resolution on reducing transportation carbon emissions and other air pollution including electrifying all school buses and other Board of Education vehicles by 2030.

3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Citywide School Building and Stewardship Committee will aim to create a plan within six months of passage of this Resolution on reducing energy use in all facilities, increasing efficiency, and on electrifying energy in buildings to the greatest extent possible.

4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Teaching and Learning Committee will aim to create a plan within six months of passage of this Resolution on fully incorporating climate and public health education at all grade levels appropriate for helping students and families prepare for the growing climate threat and help them play a role in reducing negative health impacts.

5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Food Service Task Force will aim to create a plan within six months working with the New Haven Food Policy Council to expand access to locally-grown, healthy, sustainable food, decrease packaging waste, and increase opportunities for food donation, food rescue, and composting.

6. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will recognize the urgent nature of the climate emergency and allocate the resources to fully fund these projects. For example, hiring consultants, hiring a full-time climate coordinator staff member, having the district's grant writer come up with resources, etc.

7. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will review public health analysis of climate impacts on students and families (like the Yale Climate Change and Health in Connecticut 2020 Report). Then, recognizing the impacts of heat waves, floods, extreme storms, etc, on learning, the Board will aim to report back within six months with a plan how schools can help students and families prepare for and limit coming climate driven negative health impacts.

8. (amended to the motion during the meeting) BE IT FURTHER REOLVED that the F&O Committee will aim to create a plan within 6 months of passage of this resolution, to develop a plan to recycle glass, plastic and paper products.