FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Students and Educators Push Comprehensive Climate Education with LAUSD Resolution

Los Angeles, California (1/12/22)—To help fight the escalating climate crisis that’s increasingly endangering Los Angeles, the nation, and the planet, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Board of Education during its next regular meeting on 1/18/22 will have the first reading of a Resolution aimed to enact a comprehensive Climate Education Program for LAUSD schools.

The Resolution originated from the Climate Curricula Committee, which is a group of students and educators that are affiliated with the Los Angeles chapter of former Vice President Al Gore’s Climate Reality Project (CRP-LA).

With the Resolution, the Committee intends to move Los Angeles into the growing ranks—across cities, counties, and states, such as Berkeley and Oakland, Santa Clara County, and the state of New Jersey—that have passed important measures to adopt critical climate education in schools.

The Committee’s ambitious Resolution aims to establish funding for the Program that will provide teachers and students the necessary understanding about the climate crisis and the skills they require to help them better prosper now and in the future, as well as be better prepared to enter the changing workforce and economy needed to solve the climate crisis.

The Program greatly improves climate education in schools by integrating climate learning and climate justice into all subject matter across all grades (preschool to 12th grade).

The Committee has now had eight meetings with LAUSD Board Members and their support staff. Most recently, on December 20, 2021, the Committee met with Board Member Scott Schmerelson and Chief Academic Officer Alison Towery. The meeting yielded excellent cooperation and progress on solidifying the Resolution details. The first reading of the Resolution is set on the agenda for the 1/18/22 Board meeting (https://boe.lausd.net/01-18-22RegBd), and the Committee anticipates the vote on the Resolution will occur at the 2/8/22 Board meeting.

Formed in April 2021 by retired LAUSD science teacher Lucy Garcia, the Climate Curricula Committee is made up of students, community members, climate communication specialists, teachers, and other educators who combined have well over a hundred years of service working with LAUSD.

Visit www.laclimatereality.org/lausd-resolution to read the Committee’s resolution in full and www.laclimatereality.org/climatecurricula for more info about the Committee.

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