



## Maine Department of Education Climate Education Taskforce and Plan

### **The Goal of the Climate Education Plan is:**

To increase access to climate education by creating a climate education plan that coordinates cohesive goals, networks, resources, and programs while balancing support for local decision making.

### **Priorities:**

1. *Advance Equity* – Increase and promote equitable access to climate education.
2. *Mitigate/Adapt* – Develop local innovative climate action.
3. *Educate* – Develop and support educators and the Whole Student Approach

### **2 Key strategies:**

#### **1. Increasing Capacity Building for Advancing Climate Literacy in Maine Schools:**

- A. Accelerate Educator Training
  - Move current Pilot Program for Climate Education Professional Development to Permanent Funding
  - Equitable funding for teacher training (action steps)
  - Preservice Training
  - Add Certifications about Climate Change (potentially)
- B. Develop Resources (vetted curriculum etc.)
  - Increased use and distribution of Maine Climate Education Hub (vetted free resources)
  - Climate Badge - clearing house for content
  - Maine Climate for Teachers Annual Report from MCC
- C. Build and Implement preK-12 Scope and Sequence/Framework (cross walked with NGSS/Common Core/Wabanaki Framework etc.) (not mandated) age appropriate examples

#### **2. Development and Implementation of Local Climate Education Plans (District and School Levels)**

- A. Build state guide for Climate Education plans
  - Why more planning
    - Funding streams
  - Link to local community sustainability/climate plans
  - Funding/Incentives for Plans
  - Green School Buildings/Yards/etc.
- B. Support and Facilitate Connected Networks
  - Host Climate Education Summit
  - Launch a Green Schools Network for Maine
  - Coordination of local non-profit organizations
- C. Develop Student Programs
  - Youth Climate summit
  - Workforce Development/Career Exploration Programs
  - Senior Projects



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- Early Childhood
- D. Fund Staff to Support Work
  - Facilities Manager Training - Legislative/Maine Climate Council Potential
  - District Coordinators for local plans
- E. Celebrate and Communicate School Stories and Success
  - Federal Green Ribbons Program (celebrating schools) application
  - Maine Green Ribbons + school plans
  - Storytelling for all programs