

AMERICAN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Celebrating Action from Local to National



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HOW-TO GUIDE

Students Working Across Eight Denver Based Schools to Urge DPS Leadership to Take Climate Action

[Denver Public Schools](#)

The acceleration of the climate crisis from a vague threat to an everyday reality led 30 students from eight schools to mobilize into the advocacy group “DPS Students For Climate Action” and urge Denver Public Schools (DPS) leadership to take significant and urgent climate action.

The DPS Board of Education responded by unanimously passing a climate action policy on Earth Day 2022. The plan contains 3 North Star Goals to be reached by 2050 and 23 comprehensive goals to be reached by 2028. The goals were developed with extensive community input, used an equity lens, aligned with the student’s vision, and spanned the

pillars of the triple bottom line. The DPS Climate Action Plan is focused on six frameworks: Built Environment, Transportation, Resource Management, Wellness, Engagement & Environmental Justice, and Career & Curriculum. The DPS Sustainability Team also completed a Financial Impact Assessment in 2023 to understand and educate stakeholders about the economic pathways for achieving the plan’s goals. Through this Climate Action Plan and Financial Impact Assessment, the DPS Sustainability Team is implementing tangible climate action at the local level and spurring others across the nation to implement climate action.

Replicate This!

How To Get Started

1. Mobilize into a climate advocacy group and create a climate action policy
2. Advocate for policy adoption and publish a Climate Action Plan
3. Show impact and progress against the Plan and publish progress.