

**CANYON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE JUSTICE ACTION**



WHEREAS, Canyon is a strong community that is proud to commit to actions for climate justice; and

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

WHEREAS, we believe that climate change is not a partisan nor political issue and that local, state, and national policies should be guided by the best available science; and,

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

WHEREAS, children represent a particularly vulnerable group because greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere will accumulate over the coming decades and will profoundly impact our current students throughout their lives, as well as the lives of future generations; and,

WHEREAS, the Canyon School District Board of Education recognizes that climate change is a social justice, generational, equity, and human rights issue. While climate change impacts *all* people and disproportionately impacts *all* young people and *all* further generations, it disproportionately affects people of color and people in poverty, thereby exacerbating existing inequalities and limiting equality of opportunity; and,

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

WHEREAS, we work to ensure that all Canyon School District students graduate knowing they have a choice to be responsible stewards of the environment; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canyon School District welcomes invitations to advocate alongside youth-led climate justice movement groups such as Earth Guardians and



Youth vs Apocalypse at the local, state, and federal levels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Canyon School District encourages the strengthening of relationships for intergenerational collaboration for climate justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Canyon School District celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

Reducing Waste	School lunch composting program, classroom recycling bins, and reusable dishware.
Sustainable Food Systems	The talented, loving, creative super home-cooking school chef who uses organic foods and school garden produce when possible.
Environmental Education and Curriculum	Teaching respect for trout spawning, the watershed, and the redwoods; environmental service learning projects and field trips; nature journaling; student choice advocacy letters; incorporating discussions about the youth-led movement for climate justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Canyon School District calls on Congress to take swift and effective action for climate justice to protect current and future students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Canyon School District Board shall support and promote discussions between Canyon school students, staff, parents and local communities regarding further action towards climate justice. Examples may or may not include:

- ❖ Offering educational opportunities to students and parents to explore climate justice issues and the impact of individual and community choices.
- ❖ Striving for a zero to low waste practice that minimizes plastics and packaging at school (assessing continued use of items such as plastic cups of fruit, Halloween carnival prizes, and packaged snacks).
- ❖ Striving towards an even more climate-friendly food service, including locally sourced food.
- ❖ Reviewing the carbon footprint impacts of the 8th-grade travel to Costa Rica.
- ❖ Exploring ways the community can support the request for CalSTRS to divest from fossil fuels.
- ❖ Promoting political action on a local, regional and national scale such as fracking, water quality, plastic pollution, extinction of species, melting of the polar ice cap, etc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Canyon School District Board directs the district Superintendent/Principal or staff member to transmit copies of this resolution to the following: the Superintendent of Contra Costa County Schools, all California Superintendents of Schools, the California Teachers' Union, Canyon Education Foundation (CEF), Canyon Association to Support the School (CATSS), the State Superintendent of Education, the Congressional Climate Solutions Caucus, the California State School Board Association, the National School Board Association, all California members of Congress, and the Schools for Climate Action campaign.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of June 2019.

Jim, President of the Board

Articles to Accompany Resolution

[Schools for Climate Action](#)

National Geographic Jan. 16, 2019

[Eating meat has 'dire' consequences for the planet, says report](#)

The Guardian Oct. 18, 2018

[Huge Reduction In Meat Eating 'Essential' to Avoid Climate Chaos](#)

The Guardian May 22, 2019

[Could You Give Up Flying? Meet the No-Fly Pioneers](#)

[No Fly Climate Sci](#)

[Changing The Language Around The Climate Crisis](#)

CalSTRS

Public Comment for CalSTRS to divest from fossil fuels - from Earth Guardians Bay Area (EG), Youth vs Apocalypse (YvA), teachers, and other concerned adults

[Video 1 of 4](#)

Jane Vosburg - retired teacher from Fossil Free California at min 26:18
Samantha - YvA at min 29:36
Isabella Zizi - Indigenous activist at min 32:37
Rumari - YvA at min 35:50
Magdalena - EG at min 38:58



[Video 2 of 4](#)

Magdalena - EG (most of her speech wasn't recorded due to a tech difficulty)
Penny & Rio- EG at min 00:19
Oren, Asher, and Frances- EG at min 3:50 showing footage that CalSTRS wouldn't permit be screened on their big monitors. The footage is from Our Planet - Frozen World on Netflix and shows a very heartbreaking glimpse of about how 100,000 walrus crowd together to adapt to the loss of ice and end up trying to climb up cliffs to escape the crowds but then fall to their deaths.

[Video 3 of 4](#)

Begins with Oren, Asher, and Frances finishing the Our Planet - Frozen World clip
Jasia - EG at min 2:10

Gael - YvA at min 5:00
Christopher - YvA at min 7:02
Iman - EG at min 9:01
Beckett - EG at min 11:02
Doris - YvA at min 12:02
Michele - YvA at min 13:20
Adam - YvA at min 14:15
Angelika - YvA at min 17:17
Sophia - student at min 19:45
Amira - student at min 20:22
David Mandal - adult at min 24:20
Elliot - student at min 26:40
Karen Perkins - retired teacher 29:06

[Video 4 of 4](#)

Starts with Rena's public comment-decided not to share prepared words but speak to the frustration we experienced in the room instead. [This video](#) has some of the points I originally planned on making.

Cory Jong - teacher at the beginning (the rest of her comments lost per tech difficulty)
Carolyn Noor - YvA at min 3:15
Cynthia Mahoney - doctor at min 6:10
Rena - EG at min 9:50
Keris - EG at min 14:36
Bill Vossburg - retired teacher at min 16:14
Joane - retired teacher at min 19:04
Betsey Thagard - preschool teacher at min 21:00 powerful closing story
Chairman's closing words and kids leave changing at min 23:26