



Re: Support of Adoption of a Resolution Committing to Implementation of a Climate Change Action Plan Focus Workgroup

Dear Dr. Thornton,

Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund (CCAN AF) is a non-profit focused on climate solutions in the Chesapeake region. We have played a critical role in advocating for policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the local, state and national levels. We have over 20,000 members in the state of Maryland who we frequently mobilize around these actions.

CCAN AF is writing in support of adoption by the Prince George's County School Board of a clear timeline to power our schools with 100% clean energy, including the energy used for electricity, heating, cooling, cooking, and transportation, and to adapt them to threats such as flooding. We are also writing in support of initiation of a Focus Workgroup to develop a School Climate Change Action Plan that will outline how to implement these goals in a timely, cost-effective, and equitable manner.

While systemic change at the global, national and state levels is absolutely necessary to reach our overall climate goals, these changes ultimately will be carried out at the local and community level. It's imperative that county organizations like yours do everything in their power to enact the changes we need.

Once the resolution is adopted and action plan is implemented it will:

- Reduce the carbon footprint of our county school system, which is of vital given the size and importance of the institution;
- Limit exposure of children to air pollution from the burning of fossil fuels in the buildings and on buses;
- Allow for improved heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems that will improve indoor air quality in the learning environment;
- Save money from reduced maintenance and fuel costs over time;
- Create buildings that are more resilient to flooding and storms;
- Create an opportunity for STEM, vocational, and other students to learn, hands on, about the technologies of the future;
- Set up a more equitable learning environment for all students, including by allowing saved funds to improve other neglected aspects of school buildings.

These are all goals that CCAN AF supports and would like to see implemented in our community. We believe that the Prince George's County School Board should adopt a resolution setting a date for 100% Clean Energy Schools and implement a Focus Workgroup to implement the goals.

Sincerely,

Emily Frias, Maryland Grassroots Coordinator

443-558-6497