

Climate Change.  
Hello, my name is [redacted] and I am a 16 year old currently attending [redacted] Senior High School. As a young person and a part of the next generation to inherit the planet, I feel it is my responsibility to ensure my peers and I are fully educated about the issue of climate change and how it is going to drastically affect our future. As students, we learn about the biology of our world and the natural ecological processes that take place such as the water cycle, food chains and the life cycles of plants and animals. However, we are not educated about the devastating impacts our actions are having on the environment, which will only worsen. This knowledge is essential and needs to be a part of school curriculums. Mitigating the impacts of climate change is a top priority, and this process needs to start in schools, for how are we supposed to plan for our futures when we might not have one?

Taking climate action in schools comes with a range of benefits. This education empowers young people, encouraging them to change their attitudes and behaviors towards the climate issue. By becoming informed on the facts and the steps we can take, the hopelessness and ecoanxiety felt by many young people is lessened, giving us a goal and a focus. At [redacted] Senior High School, we often take part in plastic cleanups, microplastic studies and tree-planting, but our teachers

are simply not given the time and funding to complete this as part of their lessons, meaning it is done in personal time. These school and community activities need to be a part of the curriculum, not the responsibility of teachers who's lives are busy enough.