

**Sebastopol Union School Board Statement (and Press Release)**  
**Calling on the 116th Congress to Act on Climate Change**

*As the leaders of thousands of school districts, boards of education, student councils, various school system support organizations, and millions of school stakeholders from across our great country, we thank you, the members of the 116th Congress, for your leadership and for your service to all Americans. We especially appreciate your commitment to young people.*

*As educators and educational leaders, young people are our primary constituents. Everything we do, in our official capacity, should help empower young people to create healthy, successful, and thriving futures for themselves, for their families and communities, and for our country.*

*It is with this goal in mind that we have taken the **extraordinary** step of coming together to speak up for Congressional climate action to protect our students and all future generations of Americans and all of humanity. Climate change is a children's issue, a generational justice issue, and a human rights issue. We come together to respectfully call on this 116th Congress to also come together---across party lines---to act boldly and effectively to preserve a safe climate. We, educational leaders and the school communities we serve, need you, the 116th Congress, to act on climate change. There are multiple common sense policies---carbon pricing, 100% clean energy policies, and science-based climate restoration plans---which you could quickly enact to get us started down the path towards climate restoration. Time is of the essence.*

*Due to new scientific insights and the direct experience of climate-related disasters during the 114th and 115th Congress, the direct threat of unmitigated climate change to all young people and future generations has never been more clear to us.*

*Continued Congressional inaction on climate undermines our schools and our mission to empower young people to thrive and succeed. Inaction undermines our generation's credibility as a moral authority regarding responsibility and sacrifice. Continued Congressional climate inaction will make it inevitable that our young people will face overwhelming humanitarian disasters caused by climate chaos within their lifetimes.*

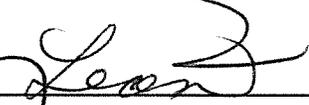
*No matter how successful the educational sector is at transmitting academic skills, sustainability advances, and civic engagement to our young people; if you, the 116th Congress do not act decisively on climate change, the problem will grow faster than the abilities of our young people to manage.*

*Our love and commitment to our students, our country, and our democracy mean that we will no longer be silent about Congressional climate neglect. Congressional inaction on climate change threatens our mission, our values, our democracy, and most tragically, our young people. You, the 116th Congress, can act on climate and give our young people the lifelong opportunity to thrive and prosper.*

*Thank you for your consideration, for your service, and for acting on climate change to protect all Americans. On March 28th, 2019, youth-adult delegations will visit Congress to hand-deliver climate action resolutions from school communities across the country. This will be an opportunity for you to communicate your plans for national climate action with the educational sector. We trust that the 116th Congress will choose health, safety, prosperity, and stability for our current students and all future generations.*

Signed on this date: February 14, 2019, at the Sebastopol Union School District Office, 7611 Huntley St. Sebastopol CA, 95472.

**Sebastopol Union School District Members:**

Deborah Drehmel, President	
Debra Ramirez, Clerk	
Olivia Leon, Trustee	
Joe Pogar, Trustee	