

EJ Freedom School Lobby Day

Climate Action Plan Template

1. Introduction

- **Who You Are:** Briefly introduce yourself. State Your name, your school, your grade, and where in the city you live.
- **Why We're Here:** Share the purpose of the meeting (to advocate for climate action that prioritizes youth, schools, and underserved communities).
- **Our Vision:** A healthier, more resilient Illinois where every community has clean air, safe water, and sustainable transportation.

In Your OWN Words:

2. Problem Statement

- **Local Impacts:** Describe specific issues in your community (e.g., poor air quality, flooding, heat islands, lack of safe or affordable transit).
- **Equity Concern:** Explain how underserved or frontline communities bear disproportionate burdens.
- **Data Point:** Include 1–2 key statistics (e.g., asthma rates in neighborhoods near highways, emissions from diesel school buses).

In Your OWN Words:

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3. Goals

- **Adaptation:** Protect vulnerable communities from climate impacts.
- **Mitigation:** Reduce emissions to meet state and national climate targets.
- **Equity:** Ensure solutions prioritize accessibility and environmental justice.

In Your OWN Words:

4. Proposed Actions

(Tailor to clean energy transit and other local priorities)

- **Clean Transit:** Transition to electric school buses and expand affordable, accessible public transit.
- **Safe Mobility:** Invest in protected bike lanes, walkable streets, and community transit programs.
- **Green Infrastructure:** Expand tree planting, rain gardens, and cooling centers in heat-vulnerable areas.
- **School Action:** Fund energy-efficient school buildings and climate curriculum.

In Your OWN Words:

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5. Benefits of Action

- **Health:** Cleaner air reduces asthma and other respiratory illnesses.
- **Equity:** Improves transit access for low-income students and families.
- **Climate:** Cuts greenhouse gas emissions in line with state goals.

In Your OWN Words:

6. Student Voice / Stories

- Share short personal testimonies (e.g., “Our school is next to a busy roadway and many of us suffer from asthma. We need electric buses for clean air.”).

Shareable Quote:

7. Call to Action

Your Asks: