Charting the Course for Climate Change Education in New Jersey

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Environmental sustainability education minor receives national accreditation

So, we got to work right away

April 2020
Recruited participants by email and social media to participate in survey
Still teachers responded & 84% agreed to participate & completed the 15-minute survey
A focus group with 10 participants was held later to elaborate on and follow up on the trends from the survey
Participants were asked about climate change, marine science, and the NSES w/ respect to their own content knowledge and teaching

Vision
Ensure that all teachers, students and educational leaders in New Jersey understand climate change and are empowered to develop solutions to climate-related problems.

Goal

1. Have students in New Jersey public school teachers prepare to talk about climate change in their classrooms and discuss ideas on the best way to educate students about climate change
2. Prepare future teachers to integrate climate change education into their courses and publicize programs to other educators and schools
3. Create a robust database of climate change curricular resources

For more information, next steps, or copies of articles, email: maddenL@tcnj.edu

And...it became critical to document the story as it unfolded. This work is unprecedented.

- We conducted a survey-based study in June & Dec 2022 assess teachers' preparedness with respect to teaching about climate change

Some key findings
- 51 & 73 teachers responded representing all grade levels and content areas, and at least 23 school districts
- Mixed responses with regard to their familiarity with the standards
  - The majority of respondents (67%) cited that they needed more access to curricular materials
  - An even larger number (75%) noted that they needed more professional learning opportunities

New Jersey Teachers' Perspectives on the Implementation of K-12 Climate Change Standards Initial Findings from Surveys in June and December 2022

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