

KEY POLICY PLANNING TIMELINES



BACKGROUND

Understanding the policy and advocacy timelines related to climate initiatives is essential for effective planning and action. Look over the following prompts to gain a better understanding of some of the key policy moments and timelines in your state or school district.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Session Schedule

- What are the session start and end dates?
- Can you determine whether your state legislature will follow a short or long session schedule for the coming year?
- What are the pre-filing and filing deadlines?
- Are there separate deadlines on the books or re: capacity for assistance with drafting a bill?

Limits on Bill Introductions

- Are there restrictions on the number of bills that can be introduced by a single legislator?
- Are there rules about how an education bill can be introduced?

Budget Cycle & Funding

- Can you find out details on your state's budget cycle, including when the budget proposal, review, and finalization typically occur?
- Identify significant sources of funding available for climate-related or education-related projects and initiatives in your state.

Roles and Relationships

- Research and learn about education lobby relationships in your state.
- Think about who is on the education committee and what it would take to get a bill through the committee.
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of the State Education Board in contrast to the State Legislature and State Standards regarding education policy and climate initiatives.

State Department of Education

- When are learning standards updated?

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SCHOOL BOARD

School Board vs. Legislature

- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of the School Board in contrast to the State Legislature regarding education policy and climate initiatives.

Meeting Schedule

- Determine the regular meeting schedule of the school board, specifying the frequency and timing of meetings.

Agenda Process

- Outline the procedure for requesting agenda inclusion in school board meetings. Include any prerequisites and deadlines (such as a 30-day notice requirement).

Community Engagement Opportunities

- Identify and describe any planned community engagement efforts initiated by the school board, such as town hall meetings related to climate or education matters.