

Climate Change

Alison Moran

Alden High School, Alden, NY, USA (amoran@aldenschools.org)

Teachers are posed with very little in ways of teaching climate science. Climate science is lacking in the standards that are presently taught in NYS schools. The new NYSSL Standards address this. A group of teachers that meet monthly program called master teacher program, which ran by NYS; decided to host a climate summit for students at a local college. With a great deal of planning we had a full day activity with presentations on climate, activities, and a planning session.

Students learned climate basics, the effect of CO₂ in the atmosphere and how it causes temperature increase. They did this through a basic experiment using heat lamp and thermometers. After which they proceeded to look at citizen science and learned how to gather data for scientists through the GLOBE program. Students then learned about alternative clean energies, one being turbines. After a brief lesson, students obtained random equipment and designed and produced turbine blades. Once blades were constructed they competed in a contest to see which type of blade produced the best multimeter reading. During lunch they calculated their Carbon Foot Print once they chose their lunch items. The day culminated with an activism piece where they developed a plan to take back to school and implement and a social hour.