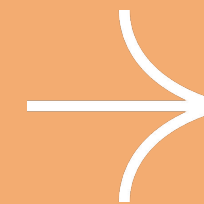


SEAL OF CLIMATE LITERACY



*Scaling a National Movement for
Climate-Literate Graduates*

APRIL 2026





STRONG MOMENTUM

Broad Coalition of Support

We are building a broad coalition of national partners to support the scaling of this movement.

American Federation of Teachers

Campaign for Climate Literacy

Green Schools National Network

North American Association for Environmental
Education

U.S. Green Building Council

National Education Association

National Wildlife Federation

Subject to Climate

Ten Strands

The Climate Initiative

EarthDay.org

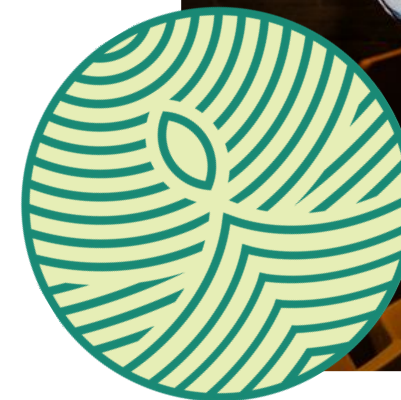


A POWERFUL LEVER FOR CHANGE

The Seal of Climate Literacy

A nationally scalable diploma endorsement that certifies high school students as climate-literate – equipped not just with knowledge, but with the **skills and agency to lead** in a climate-affected world.

- Launched through bipartisan legislation in Colorado ([SB24-014](#)) and regulation through the Department of Education in Maine (2026)
- Integrates into existing graduation, CTE, and dual enrollment pathways
- Zero-mandate policy tool – integrates into current education structures





MARYLAND'S STRONG PRECEDENT

Seal of Biliteracy



Seal of Civic Excellence

Environmental Literacy Requirement

College Ready Endorsement

CTE Endorsement

Key

-  Enacted via legislation
-  Enacted via state board of education





COLORADO SENATE BILL 24-014

Passed in 2024, Colorado's SB 24-014 created the Seal of Climate Literacy Diploma Endorsement to prepare high school students to lead in addressing the economic and social impacts of a changing climate.



Not a mandate

The legislation makes participation by school districts and charter schools **voluntary**, which helped the legislation succeed due to Colorado's preference for local control.

Fiscal note

The Seal is associated with a fiscal note of roughly \$20,000/year.

Bill sponsors

Sen. Chris Hansen &
Rep. Barbara McLachlan

[BILL TEXT](#)

[FISCAL NOTE](#)



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REGULATION

Enacted in March 2026, Maine Department of Education created the Seal of Climate Literacy Diploma Endorsement to prepare high school students to lead in addressing the economic and social impacts of a changing climate.



Not a mandate

The policy makes participation by School Administrative Units **voluntary**. It follows the precedent set by the Seal of Biliteracy. The Department of Education and Maine Environmental Education Association will partner to support implementation.

Implementation

The Seal will be conferred in 15 schools this year, to about 50 students.

Support

Lyra/UndauntedK12 have supported Maine with policy and implementation tools to succeed.

[POLICY INFO](#)



WHAT MAKES THIS UNIQUE?

The Seal of Climate Literacy



Responsive to Youth

Arms youth with knowledge and action to address the climate crisis



Adaptable & Bipartisan

Works in red, blue, and purple states through legislation or policy



Zero-Mandate

Integrates into what schools already offer



High-Impact, Low-Cost

Focuses on student outcomes, not bureaucracy



Workforce Ready

Intersects workforce, education, and civic leadership



Ready to Scale

Clear path to expansion, strong team, measurable impact



QUALIFICATIONS TO ATTAIN THE SEAL IN COLORADO

1 Academic Courses

Complete **at least two approved** courses that focus on climate literacy. These can include:

- High school physical, life, or earth science courses (may already count toward graduation).
- Concurrent enrollment, CTE, humanities, or other relevant courses that cover climate literacy topics.

2 Final Experiential Project

Complete a **final project supported by your school, club, or community partner**. Examples include:

- A capstone project
- Fieldwork, internships, or practicums
- Community projects
- Lab experiments
- Original art or writing
- Other student-led initiatives

The project must be presented to a person or group chosen by the school or partner organization.



EXAMPLES OF STUDENT PROJECTS IN COLORADO



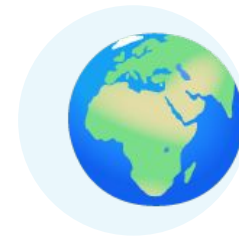
Environmental Monitoring & Research

Monitor water, air, and soil quality



Sustainable Ag & Land Stewardship

Care for pollinators and native plants



Climate Action & Policy Engagement

Lead in youth activism and climate justice



Waste Reduction & Zero Waste

Support zero waste initiatives at school



Built Environment & Energy Solutions

Design or support green infrastructure



Education & Engagement

Lead workshops and volunteer



Art & Media

Create books, music, or art with a climate message

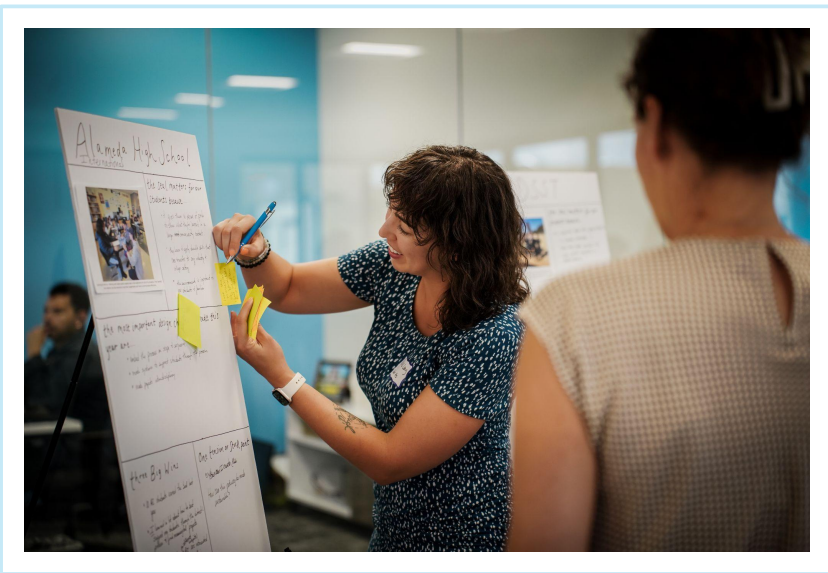


Internships & Work-Based Learning

Complete environmental or ag internships



UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE SEAL



Local Control 🗺️

Local Education Agencies lead.

- LEAs set their own standards
- Flexibility in courses and projects



Hands On Learning 🛠️

Learning by doing.

- Real-world, community- based projects
- Builds skills and supports wellbeing and application of skills and knowledge



Equity & Accessibility ⚖️

Accessible by design.

- Designed to reduce barriers to attainment
- Open to all students, regardless of background or circumstance



A POWERFUL LEVER FOR CHANGE

Galvanizing Enduring, System-Changing Education Policy

**Answers the Call
from Students**

Move from awareness to action by giving students the knowledge, tools, and confidence to lead on today's defining challenges

**Makes Climate
Literacy Universal**

Weave science-based climate change understanding into every discipline—embedding it where learning already happens, not siloing it as a standalone topic

**Future-Proofs the
Workforce**

Prepare learners with adaptable, real-world skills to thrive in a changing climate, economy, and job market

**Builds for
Enduring Change**

Ends the debate and instead focuses on action through system-level policy that is durable, scalable, and designed to evolve—so impact endures beyond any single program or moment

= Lasting infrastructure for student agency and climate action



SEAL OF CLIMATE LITERACY

EVIDENCE FROM COLORADO

One Year of Impact

Passed with bipartisan legislative support championed by student testimony.



426

Students earned Seal one year after passage



14

Local Education Providers conferred the Seal



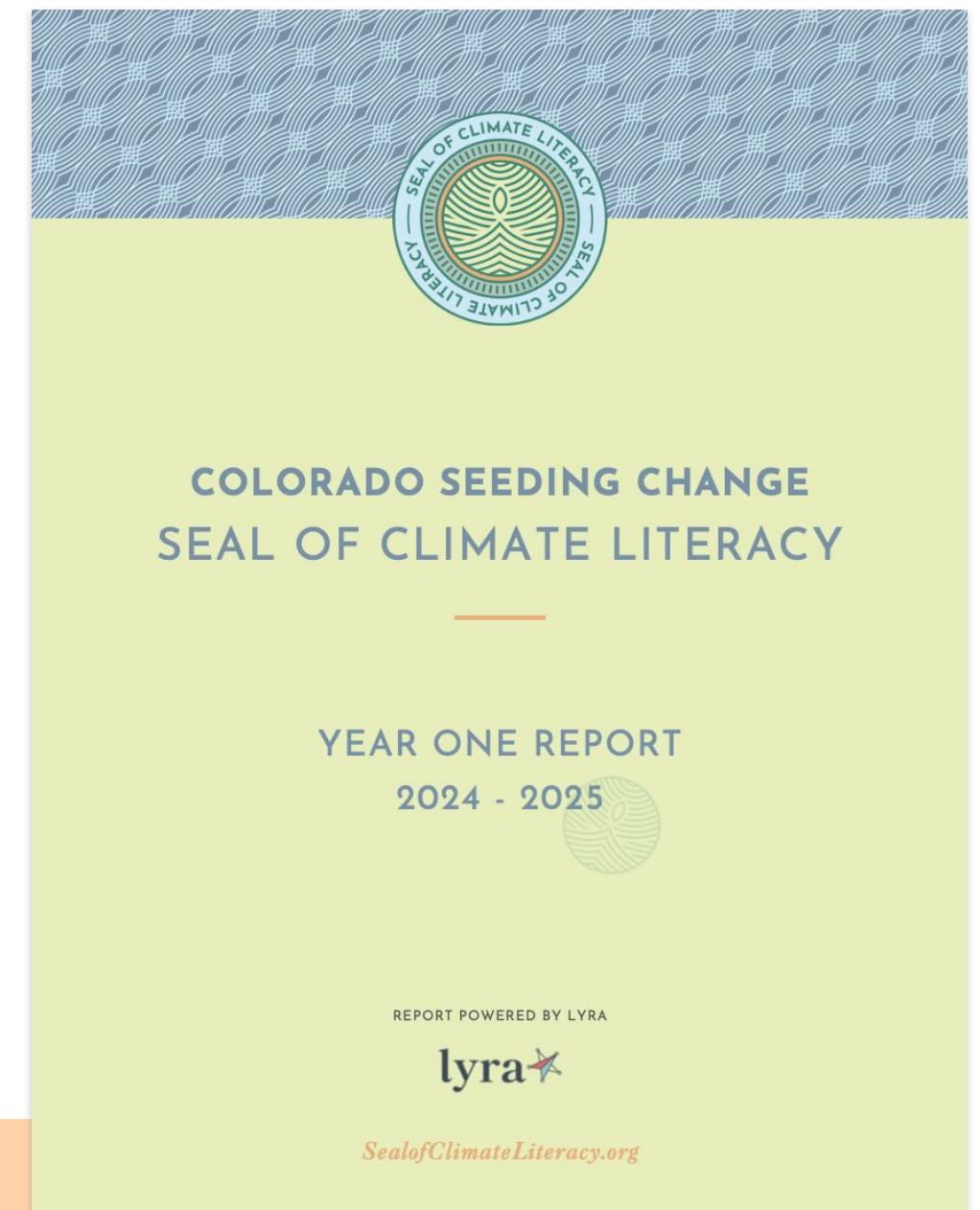
35%

Rural or small rural of LEPs conferring

- ✓ Dozens of experiential learning providers engaged
- ✓ On track to triple the number of students by May 2026

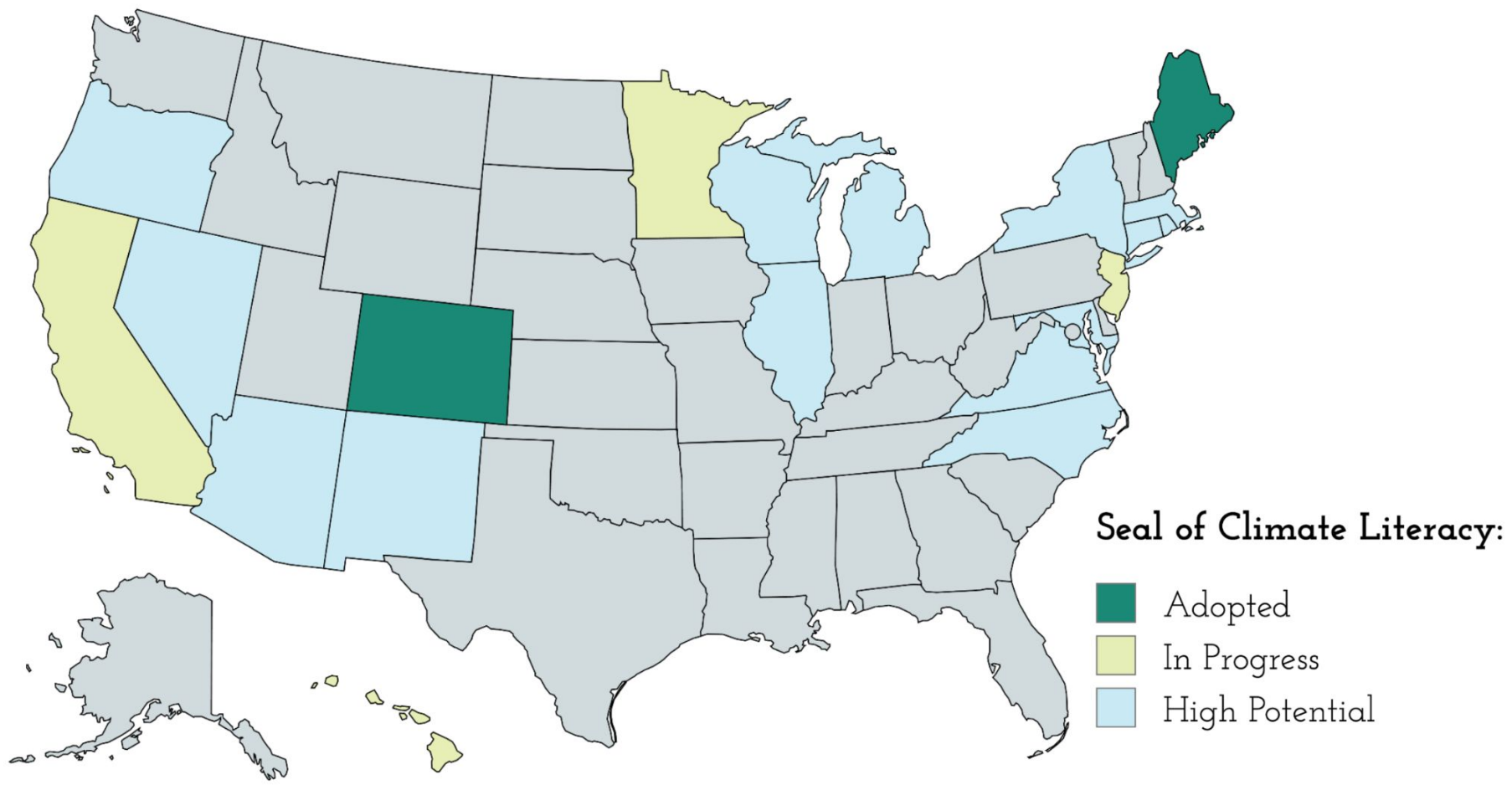
Read the full Year One

[IMPACT REPORT](#)





STRONG MOMENTUM State by State Growth



State	Mode of Passage	Policy Partner	Implementation Partner
California	Legislation (2026)	Ten Strands, UndauntedK12	Ten Strands
Colorado	Legislation (2024) - BILL PASSED SB 24-014	Lyra, Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE)	Lyra
Hawaii	Legislation (2026) - BILL INTRODUCED HB1925	Rep. Perruso	
Maine	Dept of Education (2026)	n/a	Maine Environmental Education Association (MEEA)
Minnesota	Legislation (2026) BILL INTRODUCED HF3557 and SF3659	Rep. Kraft and Sen. Cwodzinski MN Youth Council	



OFFERINGS: HOW WE COULD SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION

To ensure strong/equitable implementation of the Seal of Climate Literacy across Maryland, Lyra and [EarthDay.org](https://www.earthday.org) offer the following support:

Fundraising & Technical Support

- Support with fundraising to create mini-grants for local school divisions
- Templates, resources, tools, and technical advice based on Colorado's implementation experience

Communications & Branding

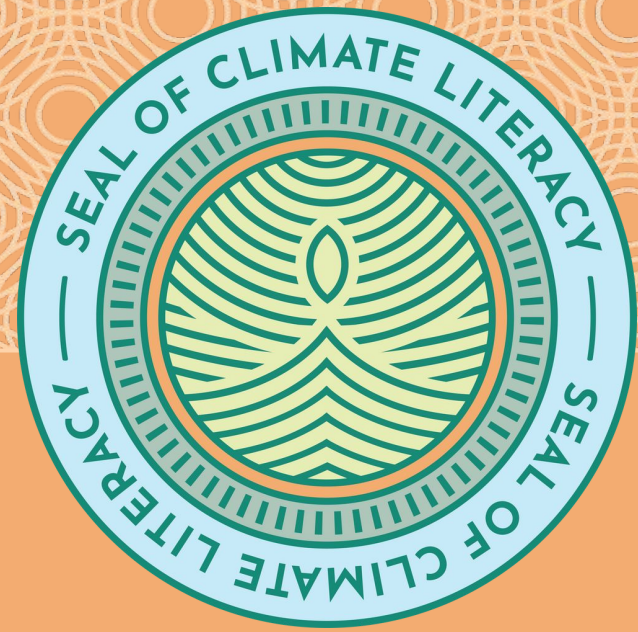
- Open-source Seal brand
- Public website, how-to guides, and marketing resources
- Media engagement highlighting local stories of impact

Student Recognition

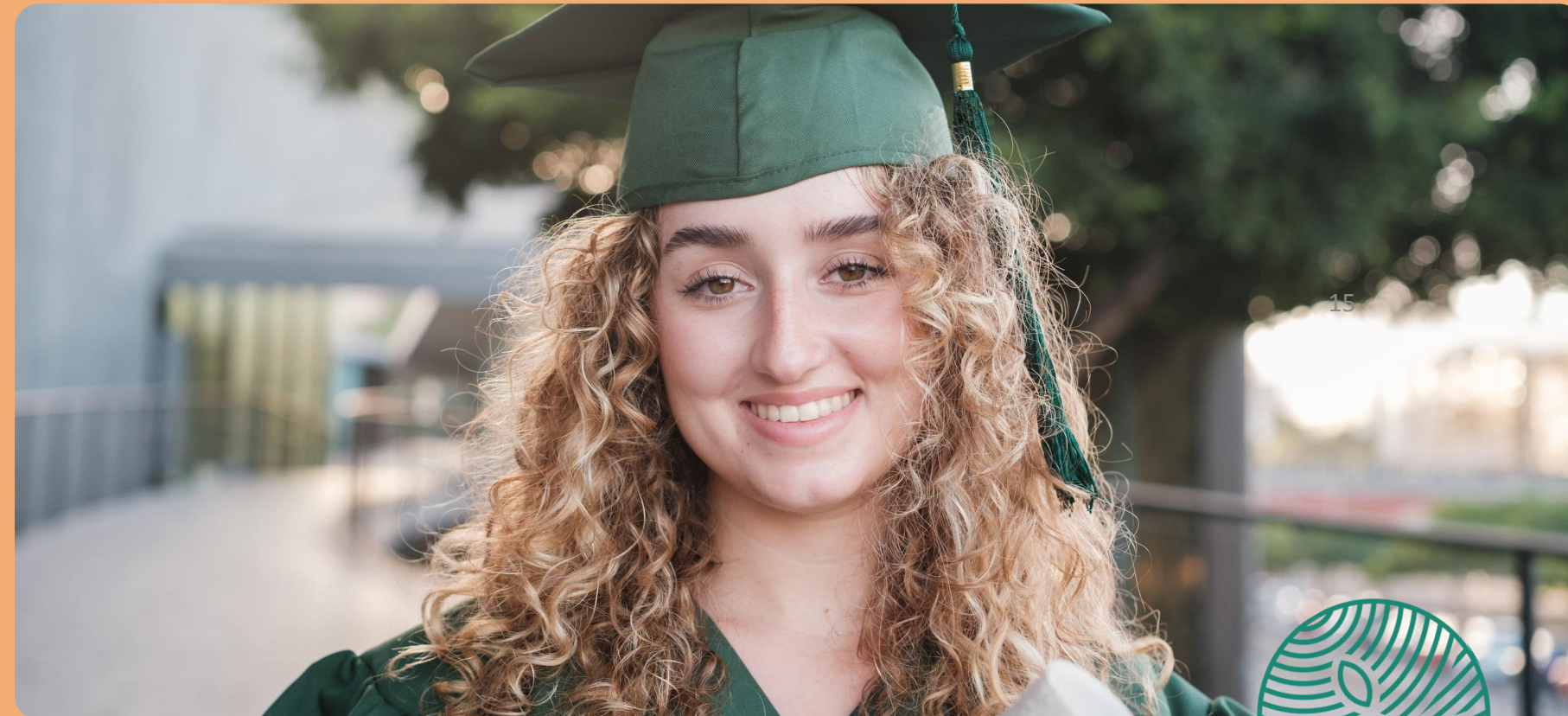
- Graduation materials - medals or cords + certificate signed by key local school division leaders such as Superintendents

Community & Professional Engagement

- Connections with other State Departments of Education across the nation working on the Seal; community of practice



THANK YOU! Let's discuss your questions.



*Scaling a National Movement for
Climate-Literate Graduates*

SealOfClimateLiteracy.org

WATCH HIGHLIGHTS FROM YEAR 1 OF THE SEAL OF CLIMATE LITERACY



