

From: [Karina Chung](#)
To: [ED, State Board of Ed](#)
Subject: [External] Environmental Literacy in the Classroom!
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 9:52:27 AM



ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Executive Director Karen Molchanow,

As a concerned high school student, I want to thank you for your role in revising Pennsylvania's Science, Technology, and Environment and Ecology standards. I am alarmed at the lack of certain materials in the proposed Integrated Standards for Science, Environment and Ecology in grades 6-12.

The standards as proposed leave out critical topics, namely Environment, Ecology, and Agriculture, as part of its performance expectations. For years, teachers have been required to teach these subjects through clear requisites in past independent state standards. To ensure they continue to receive the attention they need and deserve, they must be included in the proposed integrated standards for secondary level education as a separate, fifth domain. Watershed and wetlands, agriculture and society, and integrated pest management should also be covered through individual performance expectations.

Climate and environmental literacy is an essential skill to prepare Pennsylvania students to actively participate in a green economy and remain competitive in the workforce as it continues to evolve. Without them, there is a strong chance they will be left behind in this rapidly-changing world.

This work would have impacts far beyond the borders of Pennsylvania— it would set an example of environmental consciousness and active efforts for environmental education, and show Boards of Education in other states to implement environmental literacy as a part of their curriculums as well.

I urge you again to please include Environment, Ecology, and Agriculture as a fifth, separate domain in the proposed standards to ensure Pennsylvania students have the necessary skillset to succeed in the workforce.

Thank you for your work setting up a bright and green future for your students as well as students across the nation.

Karina Chung
karinaechung@gmail.com
181 E 90TH ST APT 22C
New York, New York 10128

