

Programs for students and schools in San Mateo County

Peninsula Clean Energy has committed over \$1.8 million in financial support for environmental and energy-related programs in schools and community colleges.



Youth Climate Ambassadors program

Through this youth leadership program, high school students dive into social and environmental issues related to the climate crisis. Applying their knowledge and leadership skills, participants develop and implement a project that addresses local sustainability issues.

“Youth Climate Ambassadors has been an amazing opportunity to meet and work with like-minded students. It's been great to improve my collaboration and leadership skills in a hands-on environment as well.” – Former Youth Climate Ambassador

Green Career Awareness program

Peninsula Clean Energy supports opportunities for middle and high school students to learn about clean energy careers through experiential field trips and project- and place-based, solutions-based curricula.

“It is critical to evolve our K-12 school system to meet the demands of a green workforce, as we must equip future generations with the necessary knowledge, skills, and values to tackle environmental challenges and create a sustainable future.” – Doron Markus, Ed.D., Former Career Technical Education and Science Coordinator at the San Mateo County Office of Education

Support for teachers

Peninsula Clean Energy helps teachers build the knowledge and skills to educate students about clean energy and its role in addressing climate change. Through workshops, teachers receive training, lesson plans, and classroom materials related to clean energy. Separately, Peninsula Clean Energy helps fund a year-long professional fellowship that supports teachers with embedding energy literacy into their classrooms and school campuses.

“This program has provided me with confidence and knowledge to educate my students about the environment and the urgency of this important work we need to put forward in our world. This program has enhanced my educational practice in terms of bringing relevant and authentic work into my classroom.” – Former Teacher Fellowship Participant

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School district energy dashboard

Peninsula Clean Energy is funding a program to deploy energy and sustainability dashboard systems at school districts. In addition to facilitating schools as learning labs for climate solutions, the adoption of these dashboards helps make facilities data transparent and accessible for teachers, administrators, and students.

“As schools everywhere confront climate impacts such as heat, drought, wildfires, and flooding head-on, it is critical that they become havens of climate resiliency for students. Sustainability dashboards are a central tool of equity, accountability and transparency, allowing for collective action at every level of the school community.” – Julie Hilborn, Environmental Literacy and Sustainability Coordinator, San Mateo County Office of Education

School Decarbonization program

Through this partnership, school districts receive expanded support to electrify their facilities and operations. The San Mateo County Office of Education will help school districts plan for electric equipment upgrades, identify funding opportunities, and track progress towards decarbonization goals.

“With the support of Peninsula Clean Energy, the San Mateo County Office of Education is supporting school districts in achieving their decarbonization goals and creating climate-ready schools.”
– Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, San Mateo County Office of Education

Partnership with community colleges

Peninsula Clean Energy is providing funding to the San Mateo County Community College District to scale energy education through experiential learning. This program will provide paid internships to community college students to develop interactive, educational exhibits focused on clean energy, electrification, and related careers.

“The mobile exhibits will act as borderless catalysts across majors/disciplines to foster students' interests in the building trades. It is also SMCCCD's first step at formalizing a physical Sustainability Career Center that brings in students, faculty and staff to collaborate on climate-related issues.” – Jessica Ho, Utility and Sustainability Coordinator at San Mateo County Community College District

Empowering students with clean energy solutions

Youth Climate Ambassador participants explore opportunities to replace fossil fuel use with clean and renewable electricity. A student demonstrates cooking a pancake powered by a solar panel and battery.



Learn more: PenCleanEnergy.com/educational-resources