



## **Green New Deal for Public Schools Campaign Overview**

**Winning Green New Deal demands will require accelerated militancy from working class movements demanding a radical expansion of public goods in the US.** This campaign will intervene in the Congressional struggle over the infrastructure bill to build and mobilize a united constituency for transformative Green New Deal for Public Schools (GND4PS) legislation including immediate demands on the infrastructure plan. The campaign will organize key labor, student, parent and other community groups around the bill and aim to politicize a public institution that exists in every community and from which we can make broad-based demands for aggressive Green New Deal investment in public services and infrastructure.

Our [Chapter Organizing Guide](#) involves **structure-based organizing with four groups: education workers, building trades workers, parents, and youth.** The deep organizing campaign will build structures from these distinct groups to fight for the GND4PS as well as durable coalitions for future climate investment demands.

**Chapters will engage two universes: 1) DSA members in educators and building trades unions; and 2) parents and students within a given school community or district.** DSA union members will be mobilized to build support among the rank-and-file. Other DSA members will be mobilized to organize parents and community members around the demands. Chapters will form local campaign committees from these groups, and mobilize an escalating campaign demanding massive green investment in public schools from the target legislator in their congressional district or from national targets like Biden, Pelosi and Schumer. DSA members involved in any chapter's campaign will be organizing either as rank-and-file union members, as parents, as YDSA chapter members, or as volunteers mobilizing these groups.

**This initial campaign plan runs through the end of September 2021—the fiscal year deadline for Senate passage of a reconciliation package.** The urgency is real: hundreds of billions of dollars are on the line, and without organization, we can't expect that investment to benefit working class communities. We must push for ecosocialist demands *now*, while building the fighting structures we need to continue pushing for them beyond the timeline of the infrastructure fight.

### **Goals**

**To win over \$1 trillion in federal investment to transform** crumbling, toxic, and disinvested public schools into fully climate-resilient, green, dignified pillars of America's multiracial working class neighborhoods

- Through this investment, to create hundreds of thousands of unionized jobs across the public and private sectors, among educators, para-educators, services, and building trades.
- With these demands, to intervene in the Congressional infrastructure fight to ensure that public investment serves the working class.
- By winning, create a new standard of investment into Black and brown communities who have faced the brunt of racist disinvestment and de facto segregation

### To build a lasting base for an ecosocialist Green New Deal

- To build lasting constituencies across the country for the Green New Deal for Public Schools
- To build formidable chapter-level structures uniting trades, teachers, and parents to fight for economic, racial, and environmental justice

### Metrics

The national campaign, with chapter help, will monitor success by tracking:

- Educator petition signatures
- Building trades petition signatures
- Parent petition signatures
- Student petition signatures
- Number of strong local coalition campaigns built

### Timeline

<b>First Phase</b>	<i>June – July</i>	<i>Campaign formation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Identify education, building trade and community leads</i></li><li>• <i>Build chapter buy-in</i></li><li>• <i>Internal Campaign call July 13</i></li></ul>
<b>Second Phase</b>	<i>July – August</i>	<i>Campaign prep</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Select campaign school/district and do outreach</i></li><li>• <i>Define constituencies in unions and school communities</i></li><li>• <i>Chapter internal structure building</i></li><li>• <i>Campaign meetings &amp; trainings for chapters</i></li><li>• </li></ul>
<b>Third Phase</b>	<i>August – September</i>	<i>External Structure building</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Outreach and petition sign-on for teachers &amp; building trades unions</i></li><li>• <i>Canvassing and tabling schools with petitions</i></li><li>• <i>Petition list-building followed by live meetings of constituents to discuss escalating pressure</i></li></ul>
<b>Fourth Phase</b>	<i>End of September</i>	<i>Escalation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Town Halls and Rallies targeting electeds</i></li></ul>

## **Enduring Structures for the Decade of the Green New Deal**

The timeline for the campaign concludes at the end of the fiscal year, when it is expected that an infrastructure package will be passed through reconciliation. The wager of this campaign is that through coordinated local organizing we can pressure legislators—fearful of the political threat of socialists organizing with labor and working class parents and students—and win significant investment working class communities so desperately need.

But what if we don't win a cent for public schools this fall?

Win or lose, this campaign aims to build dozens of strong DSA chapters with trained leaders, deep relationships to key sectors of the working class, and the skills and experience necessary to run winning campaigns -- including electoral campaigns in 2022 -- and continue growing. To do that we must develop national-local coordination and leadership, and bring in new members in every chapter in every state, the secondary goals of this campaign. Whatever the specific results of the infrastructure fight, money and resources will flow to local governments and form the local political terrain on which our GND4PS committees can form the core of future GND organizing to win the serious public investment we'll need to make this the Decade of the Green New Deal.