

**INCREDIBLE MILESTONE:
PRESIDENT'S ESEA BLUEPRINT
INCLUDES ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

Attention, New Jersey supporters of environmental education:

We've received more wonderful news concerning the Obama administration's support of environmental education!

Read the news directly from the source (below); then check the ANJEE website <http://anjee.net> for details on simple actions YOU can take to help include environmental education into the reformed Elementary and Secondary Education Act!

If you've already signed up for the EE Advocacy email list, you'll find all of the details listed in an email sent directly to you!

To get the most up-to-date news on EE Advocacy efforts, including actions you can take, send an email to Pat Skelly ee_advocacy@yahoo.com. Please include basic contact information: name, voting address, email, and phone. Optional information that would be appreciated: your congressional district, your employer, and that you want to be more involved in advocacy efforts!

I look forward to hearing from you,

Pat

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**Promoting excellence in
environmental education**

To: EE Advocacy Committee & Action Network

From: Shareen Knowlton, Chair & Brian A. Day, Executive Director

Re: President's Blueprint

Date: March 15, 2010

This weekend the President released his blueprint for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. It at this point does not appear that the administration will introduce a fully drafted bill. This blueprint does mention environmental education twice – elements below. Although it does not indicate direct support for NCLI, it does show that the President and Secretary of Education have made environmental education a priority.

A Complete Education

As we ask states to raise their standards to prepare their students for college and the workplace, we will also be asking more from students, families, teachers, principals, and every level of the educational system. To make higher standards meaningful, we must ensure that states, districts, schools, and teachers have the resources and assistance they need to help students reach these standards, such as instructional supports, high-quality professional development, and teaching and learning materials aligned with those standards. This means a new investment in improving teaching and learning in all content areas – from literacy to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to history, civics, foreign languages, the arts, financial literacy, **environmental education**, and other subjects – and in providing accelerated learning opportunities to more students to make postsecondary success more attainable.

ENSURING A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION

To help more students in high-need schools receive a well-rounded education, our proposal will provide competitive grants to states, high-need districts, and nonprofit partners to strengthen the teaching and learning of arts, foreign languages, history and civics, financial literacy, **environmental education**, and other subjects.

To put all of this in context, the following milestones warrant mention:

- This is the first time in history that environmental education has been included in the President's ESEA blueprint!
- This year marked the first time in history that environmental literacy was included in the federal Education Secretary's budget!
- To the best of our knowledge, the NCLI Coalition is the largest, most active grassroots coalition ever formed (in any field)!!

Thank you for all you are doing!!! Keep up the pressure and incredible work!