

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Hannah McKenzie, 919-322-8086 mobile, climatestrikeraleigh@gmail.com
Climate Strike Raleigh <https://climatestrikeraleigh.weebly.com>

CHILDREN CALLING FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Raleigh, North Carolina – Colin McKenzie, a six-year-old kindergartener, with the help of his parents and peers is asking North Carolina lawmakers to take immediate action to reduce carbon emissions. At the first Global Strike for Climate Action in March which attracted about 200 adults and children, he pleaded, “The Earth is dying. We have to stop burning fossil fuels.”



His mom looked on with tears holding Colin’s one-year-old brother. “Our kids should not be worrying about their future,” she says, “childhood should be carefree. Instead world-wide kids are already facing record-setting floods, droughts, storms, and heat; and we’re nearing a tipping point for natural disasters to irreversibly become more frequent and worse if we don’t start transitioning to renewable energy immediately.”

Global Youth Climate Strikes began with Greta Thunberg, a 16-year-old student living in Sweden who stopped going to school and sat outside the Swedish Parliament last August to bring attention to the urgent need for action to halt rapid climate change that the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change warns is bringing irreversible damage to our planet including the sixth mass extinction, extreme droughts, wildfires, floods and food shortages. During the week of March 15, 2019 at least 1.6 million youth and adults on all seven continents, in more than 125 countries and in well over 2,000 places went on strike to bring attention to this global crisis. Greta and thousands of other students around the world continue to school strike for climate every Friday.

The second Global Strike for Climate Action is Friday, May 24. Youth and adults from around the Triangle will gather outside the North Carolina Legislature Building at Halifax Mall from 1pm to 3pm demanding action to address climate change.

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