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Jerrett on right

Link to pdf of Climate Resolution:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/onboard/legislationFiles/download?id=5486>



Whether you know his name or not, Jerrett Alexander is an eco-hero for the town of Bloomington Indiana. He started Bloomington's first Friday's for a Future, and worked with a fellow student, Maddie Clemmer, to draft a Climate Resolution for the city of Bloomington, creating deadlines for green progress over the next twenty years. Some of these included reducing citywide emissions by 28% by 2025, and by 80% by 2050, as well as cutting 10% of natural gas usage by 2025. And the list goes on.

Jerret went to Bloomington High School North and Maddie went to South, but they managed to collaborate on the resolution through lots of research and hard work outside of studying for AP tests, taking college classes, and applying to various colleges

around the state and country. He has been an activist in many ways for a variety of topics from gun violence, to climate, to healthcare. He is an involved member of society that has been able to push past the boundaries of age barriers and pursue his interests as a teenager. He has spoken on the struggles of passing the legislation, the fear of being wrong, of being looked down on as a young person that didn't know what they were talking about, the stigma around technology obsessed high school students, and much, much more.

There was fear going into what he pursued, but he did it regardless. Although he acknowledges that they sat in meetings where they were lectured at by men three times their age, struggled to convince adults that they understood the economic factors, and had to push and push and push on issues they thought would be easy fixes, he says: "It's all worth it". Jerrett is now serving on our local commission of sustainability and goes to school at the IU O'Neil School of Environmental and Public Affairs. He and Maddie are currently focusing on another climate resolution, this time, county wide. A new idea where we live, he expects there to be much more resistance than in our little green-minded city, but he says they will keep working until legislators agree that there is a problem we need to solve.

The inspiration behind Alexander's actions, for me, falls in the timeline of his actions. I grew up knowing some of his friends and peers at North, so I heard his name and his activism efforts long before I saw them myself. He has focused on issues near to me, that I have put effort into confronting such as gun violence, women's rights, and now, climate action. He has accomplished what I only aspire to, the combination of social public activism, political involvement and leadership, and the sustaining of a normal life and career on a subject worth caring about. This combination, as he has proved, is an unstoppable force in the efforts toward environmental conservation, and his humble approach in describing his actions gives me the trust that he will do well in the future.



jerrettalexander



10:24 PM

Hey Jerrett! I am participating in Project Green Challenge this year and one of the challenges we had today was to pick a local eco-hero. After today at YELS, I picked you! How could I not? Your activism has inspired me across the board, but I especially appreciate your standing up for youth involvement in policy and local government.



jerrettalexander



I just wanted to ask you a few questions about what your experience has been and what you've managed to accomplish in Bloomington.

- How did you first decide to commit to Friday's for a future and was it during school or after? I would love to participate but I cannot sacrifice school hours no matter how much I want to.

- How did you find your interest in this field? How did you find the niche of political activism in the first place?

- How would you recommend starting a journey in this field? What were your main goals when you started this resolution?