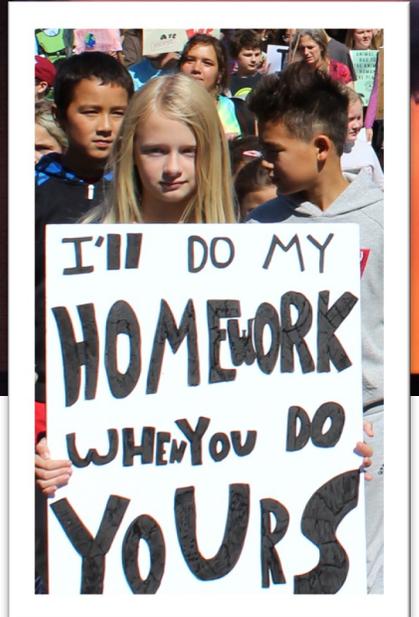


# WHAT FUTURE WILL WE LEAVE OUR CHILDREN?



## **NYSTRS must Divest!**

**Pass the Teachers Fossil Fuel Divestment Act  
A1101 Kelles / S899 Brisport**

### **We are in the midst of a climate crisis that threatens the future for our children**

- Scientists are sounding the alarm that we have only a few years left to keep global warming under 1.5 degrees Celsius. 2023 was the hottest year on record, surpassing the 1.5 degree threshold for the first time.
- Heatwaves, superstorms, drought and floods are devastating communities here in New York and around the world. The basic science of the climate crisis makes it clear that fossil fuels are incompatible with any hope for a survivable future.

### **Teachers call for divestment yet NYSTRS invests billions in climate destruction**

- The New York State Teachers Retirement System (NYSTRS) has an estimated \$7.8 billion invested in companies like Exxon, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, BP and Shell.
- Teachers prepare students for the future and they are calling on their pension to divest from fossil fuels. NYSUT, the statewide

teacher's union passed pro-divestment resolutions three years in a row along with 29 NYSUT locals including four of the five largest locals.

- Student groups, more than 70 faith leaders from diverse faith traditions, and 120 community groups have all called on the legislature to pass the Teachers Fossil Fuel Divestment Act to require NYSTRS to divest.

### **Why is divestment important?**

- Divestment reduces the fossil fuel industry's access to funding for expansion and development.
- Attempting to profit from investments in companies whose business models, public relations and lobbying efforts put safety of our communities at risk is morally unacceptable.
- It is financially irresponsible to continue to invest in fossil fuels, a dying industry. New York's climate law calls for a 85% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, and countries around the world have committed to massive reductions in emissions.

