

District of Columbia Public Schools: 2022 ELIT Summary

ELIT Response Submitted by: STEM Supervisor/Coordinator

Preparedness to Implement Environmental Education

Preparedness Level: Somewhat Prepared (4-8)

Implementation of specific elements:

Established program leader for EE	Not in place	Support system for high quality PD for EE	Partially in place
Integrating environmental concepts in curriculum	Fully in place	Plan for MWEEs at all grade bands	Partially in place
Regular communication among staff about EE	Partially in place	Established partnerships for EE delivery	Fully in place

Student Participation in MWEEs

Elementary School: System-wide at ES level

Kindergarten	Some schools/classes	2nd grade	Some schools/classes	4th grade	Some schools/classes
1st grade	Some schools/classes	3rd grade	Some schools/classes	5th grade	System-wide

Describe System-wide MWEEs: DOEE supports MWEE experiences at fifth grade. The pandemic impacted participation. We have Cornerstones in grades 2 and 5 related to the environment, but it is unclear how many teachers implement them.

Describe Isolated MWEEs: EcoRise offers its curriculum to all teachers, and has mini-grants for action projects. FreshFarm's FoodPrints program has grown to serve a number of DCPS schools, and while it primarily focuses on food and nutrition, environmental content has been integrated.

Middle School: At some schools/classes at MS level

6th grade	Some schools/classes	7th grade	Some schools/classes	8th grade	Some schools/classes
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Describe System-wide MWEEs:

Describe Isolated MWEEs: As previously mentioned, EcoRise programs. There is also a 7th grade cornerstone about bio-remediation that is environmental themed.

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High School: In some schools/classes for a required course at the HS level In Required Courses

Within course topics the LEA indicated were graduation requirements: Selection of MWEE presence

Algebra 1	Algebra 2	Geometry Some schools/classes
Biology Some schools/classes	Chemistry Some schools/classes	Earth / Env. Science
Physics	Geography	Civics / Government
History	Economics	English / Language Arts
Literature	Health / Physical Education	Other Required Course

Describe System-wide MWEEs:

Describe Isolated MWEEs: As previously mentioned, EcoRise. Anacostia High School has a whole school environmental focus as part of its redesign. DOEE and other partners provide support. The Environmental Science Scope and Sequence was updated for SY22-23.

In Elective (non-required) Courses

Within course topics the LEA did not indicate were graduation requirements (i.e., electives): Selection of MWEE presence

Algebra 1	Algebra 2	Geometry
Biology	Chemistry Some schools/classes	Earth / Env Science Some schools/classes
Physics	Geography	Civics / Gov't
History	Economics	English / Lang. Arts
Literature	Health / Physical Education	Other Elective Course
AP Science (any)	AP Math (any)	
AP History (any)	AP English (any)	

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Needs for Support

Rating of Level of Need: no need = 1 ←→ 7 = high need

PD/resources for student action	4	Funding for programming / supplies	7
PD/resources for field experiences	5	Funding for transportation	7
PD/resources for schoolyard or community as outdoor learning space	7	Funding for PD	7
PD/resources for student-centered investigations	5	Interdisciplinary curriculum planning / standards alignment	4
Partnership with EE or other community providers	5	Instructional technology for outdoor investigations	5
Superintendent / central office support	5	Other:	

“Other Need” written-in response (if any):

Qualitative Self-Assessment

Strengths of EE for Students:	Partnerships, as seen through the amount of engagement with teachers and students (e.g., training outside of PD days).
Challenges in EE:	The pandemic. For elementary teachers, having the time and comfort level to teach science. For middle and high school teachers, they are teaching the content but need to do extra to integrate environmental content.