QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – [May 2020]
Chesapeake Bay Program

Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome

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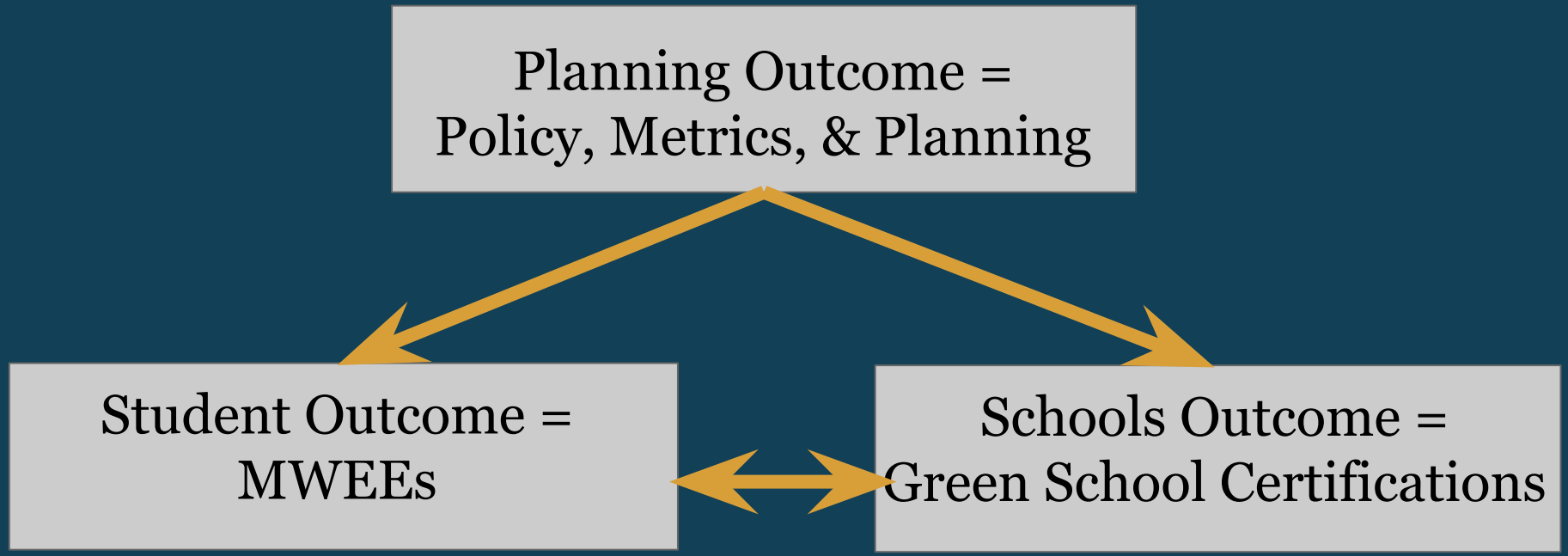
Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to…*

Goal: *Environmental Literacy*

Enable students in the region to graduate with the knowledge and skills to act responsibly to protect and restore their local watershed

Environmental Literacy Goal



State and Federal Inputs
- $$ and guidance from US ED
- Direction from State Board

State DOEs
- Standards of Learning
- $$ Programs

Local School Districts
- Local curriculum & policies
- Teacher PD
- Centralized services

Schools
- Manage buildings and ground
- Oversee individual teachers

Teachers
- Implement curriculum & programs

Students
- Learn and grow (and hopefully become stewards)

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Goal: *Environmental Literacy*

Planning Outcome:

Each participating Bay jurisdiction should develop a comprehensive and systematic approach to environmental literacy for all students in the region that includes policies, practices and voluntary metrics that support the environmental literacy Goals and Outcomes of this Agreement.

Management Approaches

- **Management Approach 1:** Support *school district efforts* to embed locally appropriate environmental practices, content, and learning opportunities into curriculum and operations.
- **Management Approach 2:** Use available data and information to *strategically and equitably focus* resources to support school district level environmental literacy planning and implementation
- **Management Approach 3:** Ensure broad understanding at the state and regional level of the progress, gaps, and opportunities related to the Environmental Literacy Goal and *promote and share policies between jurisdictions* that advance the goals.

How You Can Help

- Slow but steady progress is being made
- COVID-19 has the potential to severely impact the effort
- We need:

  To better connect regional and state environmental literacy efforts

  Ensure appropriate DOE leadership

  Identify funding to support MWEEs

  Continue to improve MWEE data collection

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Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?

Successes and Challenges

What Worked?	What Didn't?
• Analysis of ELIT Survey Data • State Working Groups • Leadership Summit	• Participation in ELIT Survey • Environmental Literacy Plans

What is our Expected and Actual Progress?

- No numeric target identified, but showing positive trends
- Participation in the survey increased slightly from 2017 to 2019
- Pennsylvania saw greatest increase in responses (from 74 to 98 districts)
- Virginia saw largest decrease (from 105 to 76 districts)

On the Horizon

- **Expected Policy Developments**
  - Change in school operations due to COVID-19
  - New state learning standards
  - New leadership in some state agencies; questionable support
  - GIT funded project to create a “network of networks”

- **Expected Scientific Developments**
  - ELIT school year 2020-2021 data collection

- **Expected Fiscal developments**
  - Uncertain budgets

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Adapt

How does all of this impact our work?

Based on what we learned, we plan to …

2019 Leadership Summit

- Continue Leadership Summits
- Provide comments on relative state standards
- Assess impact of COVID-19 on 2020-2021 school year operations
- Create more intentional connection between regional and state policy efforts
- Encourage state departments of education and natural resources to connect regularly
- Engage state leaders to encourage participation in ELIT Survey
- Support discussion around increased use of state funding

Help

How can the Management Board lead the Program to adapt?

Help Needed

- Better connect regional and state environmental literacy efforts, and ensure appropriate state leadership to aid in ongoing decision making and support
  - Update a preliminary network analysis of state environmental education networks
  - Single point of contact at the leadership level

Help Needed

- Identify funding to support MWEE efforts
  - Support the collection of district level data to create refined funding estimates
  - Develop a funding strategy using state funding estimates and list of existing funding/programs
  - Ensure that environmental education providers are eligible for emergency and/or stimulus support

Help Needed

- Use ELIT data to aid in decision making and increase participation in 2021.
  - Discuss implications of ELIT results with state education leaders (Summit participants and invitees)
  - Encourage development of state-specific communication strategies for 2021 data collection

Discussion

Presentation template by SlidesCarnival