#### QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – [May, 2020] Chesapeake Bay Program



### Sustainable Schools Outcome

Erin Sullivan US EPA, Region 3 CBP Education Workgroup Member Olivia Wisner Chesapeake Research Consortium Stewardship GIT Staffer Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...



# Goal: Environmental Literacy Schools Outcome:

Continually increase the number of schools in the region that reduce the impact of their buildings and grounds on their local watershed, environment and human health through best practices, including student-led protection and restoration



#### **How You Can Help**



#### High-level summary:

- Certifications have leveled-off, more data forthcoming
- New EPA schools coordinator Erin Sullivan
- Want an updated list of Sustainable School contacts and to increase visibility of sustainable school programs



### Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?



#### **Successes and Challenges**

What Worked	What Didn't
<ul> <li>2018 GIT Funding, Stroud Water Research Center (final GIS tool is due this year)</li> <li>Individual states are anticipating increased SS growth (PA,MD), based on new Governor's priorities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>District-level involvement</li> <li>Individuals pursue restoration projects</li> <li>Limited resources</li> </ul>



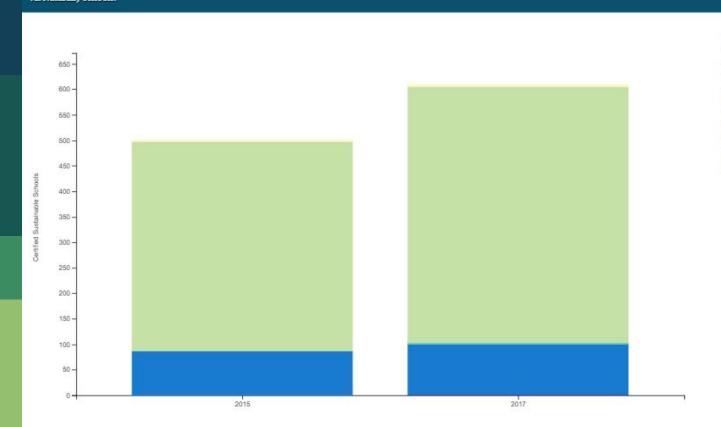
# What is our Expected and Actual Progress?



- Although a target number is not associated with this outcome, it is important to gauge progress and growth.
- In 2017, 14 percent of public and charter schools in the Chesapeake Bay watershed—610 schools in all—were certified sustainable. This marks a 22 percent increase from the number of sustainable schools in the watershed in 2015. Updated data is forthcoming.

#### Certified Sustainable Schools in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (2015-2017)

Certified sustainable public and charter schools have been recognized by the following programs: U.S. Green Ribbon Schools, National Wildlife Federation Eco-Schools USA, Md. Green Schools, Pa. Pathways to Green Schools and Va. Naturally Schools.



- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- ✓ West Virginia



#### On the Horizon

#### Expected Policy Developments

- PA- proposed Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP)
- MD- Green Schools Act 2019

#### Expected Scientific Developments

- Results of EPA Science to Achieve Results (STAR) research
- 2018 GIT Funding, Stroud Research Center, stormwater BMPs on school grounds

#### Expected Fiscal Developments

- EPA RFA for healthy learning environments
- MOUs with FCCLA and Scholastic, Inc



# Adapt

How does all of this impact our work?



# Based on what we learned, we plan to ...



- Promote green cleaning practices
  - COVID-19
- Connect MWEEs to Sustainable Schools
- Increase recognition for Sustainable Schools certification
  - Ex: MD Annual Youth Summit



# Help

How can the Management Board lead the Program to adapt?



#### **Help Needed**

- Provide an updated list of appropriate contacts for Sustainable Schools
- Initiate conversations with State Secretaries and Governors to increase recognition and visibility of sustainable school programs



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# Discussion

