



Preparing All Teachers for Environmental Project-Based Learning

Facilitator: Tom Ackerman, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

10:40 am - 11:30 am

Session Padlet: <https://ncboestc.padlet.org/estcworkshops2/uipkorz842lbu8lw>

Project-based learning like the Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) is a powerful tool for engaging learners, building 21st century skills, and imparting a stewardship ethic. However, many teachers feel unprepared to use project-based learning because it asks them to relinquish some classroom control to student-directed inquiry.

Discussion Questions

- How can we work with school districts to create comprehensive training programs for their teachers?
- How can we build relationships with universities to offer meaningful pre-service teacher education related to environmental literacy?
- What are the key elements of PD programs that create sustained impact in underserved districts?
- What are the real/perceived barriers to this work with underserved districts?
- How do we ensure that this is done equitably both within districts and across the state?

Three Things You Must Know:

- Learn about three successful models for teacher PD with underserved districts
- Identify real and perceived barriers to systemic implementation
- Identify successful strategies to incorporating a Project Based Learning approach

Background & Key Resources

- MWEE Guide for Educators
- PBL Summary
- Case Study - If there is an applicable write up

Session Speakers

- Symone Barkley, Manager of Education Programs, [National Aquarium](#)
- Donald Belle, Environmental Outreach Educator, [Prince George's County Public Schools Schmidt Center](#)
- Venicia Ferrell, Research Associate, [The Center for Educational Partnerships, Old Dominion University](#)
- Jeff Remington, NSTA STEM Ambassador, STEM Educator, [Palmyra School District](#)
- Sarah Field, Senior Curriculum Manager, [PBLWorks](#)

June 15, 2021 Breakout Session Notes

-