



## Partnership Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 2024

Meeting Link: [meet.google.com/fwt-rxkg-ufg](https://meet.google.com/fwt-rxkg-ufg)

### Attendees

Alexis Merriman (MHEC), Amy Sawyer (PTO Representative), Anna Manyak Davis (SERC), Christine Truett (Living Classrooms Foundation), Dana McCauley (Crellin Elementary School), Jemima Clark (MELAN), Jillian Storms (MSDE), Karen McDonald (SERC), Katie Dell (BCPS), Laura Johnson Collard (MAEOE), LaShawn Tucker (Dream Big Academy), Maria Prawirodihardjo (MSDE), Meg Boyd (Youth Climate Institute), Melanie Parker (AACPS), Olivia Wisner (DNR), Payton Hesse (MSDE), Rick Garber (North Bay), Shannon Sprague (NOAA), Stephanie Tuckfield (DNR, Co-Chair's Designee), Victoria Howard (Interagency Commission on School Construction), Zachary Carey (MSDE, Co-Chair's Designee)

### Welcome & Meeting Began at 10:00

- Zachary Carey, Maryland State Department of Education and Stephanie Tuckfield, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

### Member Updates

- **North Bay** is hosting the 2025 Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA) Outdoor School Summit Jan 10 – 14, 2025.
- **Maryland Environmental Literacy Advisory Network (MELAN)**
  - o Jemima Clark (MELAN Coordinator) hosted a Design and Advisory Team meeting Sep 19, 2024
  - o The Higher Education Environmental Literacy (HEEL) group hosted an inaugural summit Sep 27, 2024.
    - The event was a gathering of college and university faculty with environmental education providers that aimed to foster collaboration and innovation to enhance environmental education within Maryland teacher preparation programs. For more information contact Chelsea McClure ([cmclure@towson.edu](mailto:cmclure@towson.edu)) and Sarah Haines ([shaines@towson.edu](mailto:shaines@towson.edu)).

- The University System of Maryland will be hosting an Environmental Literacy Summit on Teacher Professional Development and Systemic Approaches to Environmental Literacy on Dec 10 – 11, 2024.
  - The summit will bring together USM faculty and staff from all 12 institutions and research labs to develop better connections within USM and learn from other practitioners that have developed effective models for teacher professional development in Maryland and other leading states. For more information contact Adam Frederick ([jfrederi@umd.edu](mailto:jfrederi@umd.edu))

- **Network Advisory Team (NAT)**

- Nat is NAT is planning the 2025 Environmental Literacy Forum Jan 7-8, 2025. The Forum will aim to promote sustainable funding and a cultural shift towards environmental literacy and sustainability within school districts by bringing together environmental literacy change-makers to explore effective strategies and provide action-oriented approaches for engaging local decision-makers.
  - ACTION: Reach out to Jemima Clark ([melan@maeoe.org](mailto:melan@maeoe.org)) and Olivia Wisner ([Olivia.Wisner1@maryland.gov](mailto:Olivia.Wisner1@maryland.gov)) if you know of anyone from your networks that would benefit from a training about how to engage with Superintendents, Boards of Education, county and district leadership and legislators after the forum to advance funding for environmental education.
- Background: NAT is a group made up of members from the Chesapeake Bay Program Education workgroup, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, NOAA, NAAEE, MELAN, and communities of practice. NAT aims to coordinate, promote and weave the environmental literacy network ecosystem in the Mid-Atlantic region by increasing communication among groups and collectively planning for regional gatherings.

- **Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)**

- Offering two more [customer service support sessions](#) for applicants interested in the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools program on Nov 14 and Dec 3.

- **Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE)**

- o The [40<sup>th</sup> Annual MAEOE Conference](#) will be held in Ocean City, Maryland on Feb 6-9, 2025. The theme is MAEOE at 40: Celebrating Nature, Education, and the Outdoors, TOGETHER!
  - The first day of the Conference will be a day of learning and collaboration focused on high-impact sustainability topics that drive large-scale environmental change. Email [Conference@maeoe.org](mailto:Conference@maeoe.org) if you are interested in being an RFP reviewer or help with the Conference planning.
- o MAEOE will be hosting informational sessions for the Green Schools Application. Upcoming sessions include trainings about how to achieve Green School Status and an overview of how to use the online portal. Register at <https://marylandgreenschools.org/resources>

**OLP Updates (Bylaws and New Members)**

- Zachary Carey, Maryland State Department of Education and Stephanie Tuckfield, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
  - o Welcome new members in attendance! A full list of representatives will be available on the DNR and MSDE OLP websites before the Leadership Team Meeting in November.
  - o Discussion and questions on OLP Procedures and Bylaws.
    - For example, do individuals that want to participate in the OLP working groups have to be formal representatives of the Partnership? Yes.

**Working Group Interest Form**

- Payton Hesse, Maryland State Department of Education and Olivia Wisner, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
  - o Overview of the 5 working groups can be found on the [MSDE OLP website](#).
  - o Representatives given time to complete the OLP Working Group Survey, distributed via email.
  - o For more information contact Payton Hesse ([payton.hesse@maryland.gov](mailto:payton.hesse@maryland.gov)).

## Leadership Team Meeting

- Zachary Carey, Maryland State Department of Education and Stephanie Tuckfield, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
    - o Representatives discussed a draft agenda and name of the Leadership Team meeting which will be held at the **Chesapeake Bay Foundation on Nov 22, 2024, from 2-4pm.**
- Items discussed included:
- Showcasing work of the partnership.
  - Incorporating speaking parts for members.
  - Offering networking time prior to meeting for staff-level participants and new members.
  - Incorporating table discussions, student voice, and avoiding back to back presentations.
  - Sharing baseline educational information presented at April meeting and pre-meeting materials (one-pager, definitions of shared language, list of members and representatives) for Agency and new members.
  - Clear objectives and action items.

## Public Comment

- None

**Meeting Ended at 12:00**