



Maryland Outdoor Learning Partnership (OLP) Access to Nature Working Group Meeting Agenda

Date and Time: Thursday, May 08, 2025, 9:30-12:30 AM

Attendees

Adam Frederick (Working Group Co-Chair), Will Forrester (Working Group Co-Chair),
Stephanie Tuckfield (OLP Co-Chair's Designee), Olivia Wisner, Trystan Sill, Bart Merrick, Frank
Niepold, Amy Sawyer, Terrie Shank, Caldonia Carmello

Welcome & Meeting Began at 9:36

Opening Discussion: Recommendations Planning

- Reviewed timeline for drafting and finalizing recommendations
 - o April: Research & collect evidence
 - o June: Collaborate & draft recommendations
 - o Aug: Finalize draft recommendations with justifications
 - o Sep: Present draft recommendations to the full Partnership
 - o Oct: Revise recommendations by incorporating feedback
 - o Nov: Submit final recommendations to the leadership team
 - o Dec: Vote upon finalized recommendations
- Emphasis on back mapping to ensure sufficient time for drafting.
- Need to revisit and update Logic Model language to reflect recent updates to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.



- Opportunity to include business and industry voices
 - o OLP accepting rolling applications for remaining “representative of the business community with demonstrated leadership in supporting the green or sustainable workforce.”
- OLP has the opportunity to better reach Spanish speakers and members of the ASL community.

Review and Input on CGC Logic Model

- Traditional natural science focus is insufficient; must broaden scope to meet green jobs demand.
- Emphasize interdisciplinary recommendations and expand the pool of students interested in green careers.
- Explore MSDE’s updated career clusters to align education pathways with industry needs.
- **Homework:** Look at the Logic Model and begin populating with the potential Recommendations under the “Priority Setting” section.

Introduction to Blue Economy and Carbon Circular Economy

- Address the acceleration of green jobs through earlier recruitment and enhanced K-12/ higher education collaboration.
- The Mission of the Partnership calls on OLP to “ensure a climate-ready Maryland.”
- DC Public Schools has adopted [Project Lead the Way \(PLTW\)’s Environmental Sustainability](#) pathway.
 - o PLTW is an example of a career pathway based on research and coursework that lists associated industry-recognized certifications.



- The development of Career Pathways should involve community college staff serving high school students.
- Opportunities to connect to efforts related to student learning hours, homeschool, programming for Title I and Community Schools.

Using AI as a Platform for Building CTE Pathway or Circular Pathways

- Proposed AI model to support the capacity of Local Education Agencies, teachers, administrators, etc. using guiding documents and existing data.
- Suggested resources for AI “container” include:
 - o MD Climate Adaptation Plan, Next Generation Adaptation Plan for Maryland (including the Jobs and Training section), Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, MSDE Environmental Literacy Framework, Chesapeake Bay Agreement, OLP Executive Order, Montgomery Co Climate Action Plan, PG Co Climate Action Plan, PGCPS Climate Action Plan, documents referenced in the College and Green Careers Logic Model, MWEE Guide, Chesapeake Bay Program WFAT Landscape Assessment, PGC College and Green Careers Guide, OLP Working Group Background
- Proposed next step:
 - o Use the documents listed above to develop a template model that adds capacity to the College and Green Careers workgroup.
- Potential recommendation: Maryland should develop and maintain a closed AI model that can be used by educators and school districts to inform lesson plans, program development and feedback loops.



Update on the Climate Ready Workforce Initiative at NOAA

- New, Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)-funded program focused on climate resilience job creation.
- No Maryland projects were funded – opportunity to learn from funded efforts.
- Emphasis on “train and hire” rather than “train and pray.”
- Importance of employer involvement and alignment of training with actual workforce needs.
 - o Is there a way to collect information from contractors who have done resilience work for the state and see what kind of occupations are being used in Maryland’s adaptation and mitigation work?
- Consider jobs not traditionally seen as “climate jobs” and emerging roles not yet reflected in occupational codes.
- Stress on coherence: making sure students understand how learning connects to real jobs.

Action Items:

- Review Logic Model and begin drafting recommendations under “Priority Setting.”
- Send Will any materials that could be added to the AI model “container” by May 26th.
- Look out for a When2Meet for a July and Aug meeting.

Potential Future Invitees

- Vanessa Galloway - Maryland Center for Construction Education and Innovation (MCCEI), Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO)
- Kimberly Armstrong - Baltimore Green Justice Workers Cooperative,
karmstrong@greenjusticeworkers.org
- Green Finance speaker? (Amy Sawyer)



Meeting Closed at 1:36

Next Meeting June 10th 1:00 to 3:00