

White House Summit on Environmental Education: April 16th, 2012

Notes from Breakout Session: Green Group

The responses listed below are transcribed directly from the sticky notes and flip charts used during the summit breakout sessions.

What one bold new step would you recommend for all organizations to ensure that environmental education fosters lifelong environmental stewardship from K-Grey?

The responses from the green group included:

- EE Interagency Working Group:
New National Plan:
Restore/add \$\$
Advisory Group
1-3 measureable outcomes within 2 years
- Be real about what challenges we face
- Coordinate efforts –existing efforts
- Conversation trickles out into communities –self-directed learning
- Collecting data on where we are now – establish baseline
- Youth advisory board is needed for task force
- Commit to moving from awareness to action
- Bring EE into General education
- Department of Education translate to State education
- HHS require green space at Head Start = pre k impact – nature based education
- NGO collaboration to complement public agencies
- Private sector role at workforce and economic growth
- Use environmental education to show metrics for private sector
- Higher Ed: community based participatory research
- More consistent funding \$\$
- Communities as knowledge co-creators
- Where is baseline?
- National Center Education Statistics – use their #'s
- EE Programs Use Buildings- Learning labs – energy learning, save \$\$
- Localized, behavior-based programs: fund local assets –media, govt.
- How to mainstream and how to make real- nontraditional partnerships
- Practical civics

- Embrace technology in the outdoors
 - Data driven results-social marketing research: communication of data from students and teaches
 - GAO School building assessment
 - Mandatory STEM- Teacher Training & scale for early childhood teachers
 - Use Standard Definition of EE and Guidelines for Excellence (NAAEE)
 - Community-based, tailored curriculum, (eg. NYC, Raleigh, Portland, etc..) across all well-being issues
 - Embrace Teachable moments
 - Link to human health
 - Student involvement in community- Kids and the outdoors
 - Attach child to caring adult in the environment- multigenerational tools
 - Use the assets we have and get people involved in “citizen science”
 - EE needs resources
 - Bring EE into Urban environments
 - “Play through Grey” – increase play
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