



Maryland Outdoor Learning Partnership (OLP)

Full Partnership Meeting Agenda

Date and Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meetings of the Maryland Outdoor Learning Partnership are open to the public in accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act. Public participation is welcomed, and attendees are invited to share comments or ask questions during the meeting.

Meeting Link:

<https://meet.google.com/ude-azjm-bbs>

Welcome

- Meeting convened with introductory remarks and agenda overview.

Member Updates

- MAEOE
 - Designated 36 new Green Schools, bringing the state total to 702 active Green Schools (40% of all Maryland schools, over 45% of public schools).
 - Hosting the MAEOE Youth Summit at the end of the month. Actively seeking exhibitors to provide hands-on student activities ([Exhibitor Registration Form](#)).
- Office of Outdoor Recreation
 - Planning underway for the 3rd Annual Recreation Summit. The call for proposals June 1st.
- Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Education (MACCE) Collaborative
 - Currently accepting session proposals; members are requested to share the call for proposals widely.
 - Contact Coreen.Weilminster@Maryland.gov for more information.
- SERC
 - Anna Davis has transitioned out of her role; Rylee Wernoch is the new representative for SERC.
- Higher Education Environmental Literacy (HEEL)

- Successfully hosted a 2-day workshop last weekend across four universities on the Eastern Shore, with visits to UMCES, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center.
- Inter-County LEA Facilities & Environmental Literacy Group (Baltimore County)
 - Bi-monthly meetings take place on the third Thursday to bridge the gap between school facilities and Green School initiatives.
 - Active participation includes representatives from Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Prince George's County, Anne Arundel County, and Harford County.
 - Access details: [Microsoft Teams Meeting Link](#) (Meeting ID: 299 125 777 955 98 | Passcode: TA2vK39L | Phone: +1 301-960-8406, Conf ID: 938 219 096#).
 - Contact Kelly Holocker (kholocker@bcps.org)

CBP Education Summit Recap

- Key Leadership Attendance: Secretary Kurtz, Secretary Flora, Secretary McIlwain, Board of Education Member Nick Greer, Congressman Sarbanes, and Claudia Fess (Chief of Staff to Delegate Wolek).
- Takeaways & Reflections:
 - High engagement from leadership around the Workforce Outcome.
 - Noted value in mapping the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement outcomes directly to OLP's recommendations and action items.
 - Highlighted a presentation by Suzanne Sullivan emphasizing that school administrators are eager to conduct Environmental Literacy Planning when provided dedicated time and clear accountability.

Maryland Supplemental Questions for E. Lit Survey

- Volunteers: Karen, Jemima, and Monica Wiedel-Lubinski volunteered to define the supplemental Environmental Literacy (E. Lit) survey questions.

Breakout: Cross-Working Group Meeting Time

Sustainable Schools & College and Green Careers

- Sustainable Schools Working Group
 - Moving forward with a recommendation for the Governor to establish a Sustainable Schools Week in October to celebrate existing LEA sustainability efforts (framing as recognition, not a mandate).
 - Strategic messaging will be developed for school participation. Idea to have plans include local school sustainability in the executive proclamation and highlight campuses that serve as direct teaching tools alongside CTE pathways.
 - Curious about “educational facilities master plan”

- College and Green Careers Working Group
 - The USM Chancellor's Office and an ad hoc USM group are hosting a meeting to connect CTE with economic development.
 - Workgroup evaluating whether to create new CTE pathway
 - MSDE is currently seeking public feedback on proposed CTE pathways.
 - Updating the guide with career spotlights and data analytics concepts. Trystan is linking Industry-Recognized Credentials (IRCs) to green careers.

Access to Nature & Environmental and Climate Literacy

- Environmental and Climate Literacy
 - Defining what a climate-literate graduate looks like in Maryland focused on experiences and skills rather than adding new standards. CBF is gathering student feedback at the Youth Summit, and members are asked to send relevant resources to Karen Mullin.
 - Preservice Teacher Support: Exploring funding to convene higher education faculty, share exemplars, and build a sustainable network for environmental literacy in teacher preparation, leveraging partnerships between MSDE and higher education.
- Access to Nature
 - Suggestion to standardize terms (such as MWEE and Environmental Literacy) across survey instruments, Bay Backpack resources, and COMAR outcomes to ensure clear data collection and eliminate confusion for new schools and partners.
 - Addressing the concept of "competing priorities" raised at the summit by explicitly demonstrating how environmental education supports common goals, academic success, and test scores.

Meeting closed at 12:00