

AASA Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA
March 2, 2017



*Superintendents' Environmental
Education Collaborative*



Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Prince George's
County Public Schools, MD



Anne Campbell, San Mateo
County Public Schools, CA



Kathy McGlaufflin,
Project Learning
Tree



Sarah Bodor, North
American Association for
Environmental Education



Don Baugh,
Upstream
Alliance

We are gathered here today to...

...discuss opportunities for school systems and partners to advance environmental education



Today's session...

Introduction

- Welcome and Need for Collaborative

Models

- MD ELPs and Graduation Requirements
- CA Blueprint
- EE Spectrum/Ladder of Engagement

Funding

- Funding through ESSA

Collaboration

- Partnerships and Resources PLT
- Partnerships and Resources NAAEE

Wrap Up

- Wrap Up: Webinar and Website
- Q & A



Superintendents' Environmental Education Collaborative

We aim to expand environmental education programs for all students to provide robust, real-world learning experiences that bolster STEM learning, civic engagement, and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century workforce.

Why form collaborative?

There is a **NEED** because:

- Federal funding is timely
- The collaborative connects superintendents to the EE community
- EE enhances environmental literacy
- Environmental issues will dominate future challenges and opportunities
- EE bolsters STEM learning & prepares students for 21st century workforce




A photograph of three young people, two girls and one boy, standing outdoors and taking a selfie. The boy on the left is holding a camera up to take the picture. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a dark, textured wall, possibly a brick wall.

*What are other school
systems doing?*

*Prince George's County
Public Schools, MD*

MD Environmental Literacy Standards & Graduation Requirement

- 
- *PGCPS Environmental Literacy Plan: standards infused into curriculum*
 - *MD Environmental Literacy Standards*
 - *Graduation Requirement: In 2011, MD passed the first graduation requirement*

An aerial photograph of a coastal waterway. The water is a deep blue, and the surrounding land is covered in green marshes and some trees. A small boat is visible in the water. The sky is a pale blue.

PGCPS Process

- *School System Goal—Graduating Environmentally Literate Students*
- *Partnerships Created with Non-Profits, Community Organizations, Agencies*
- *Advisory Panel: Monthly Breakfast Meetings*

Environmental Literacy Across the Curriculum

Environmental Literacy Themes

- **Kindergarten:** Growing up Green
- **1st Grade:** Forest Friends
- **2nd Grade:** Future Planning
- **3rd Grade:** Sunfish & Students
- **4th Grade:** Future Planning
- **5th Grade:** Wild in the Woods
- **7th Grade:** Wild Rice Project
- **High School:** Score Four



Authentic Learning in the Outdoors

Active Learners in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed



California Moves Forward

Plan:

Environmental Literacy Task Force - “Blueprint for Environmental Literacy”

Collaboration:

Environmental Literacy Steering Committee

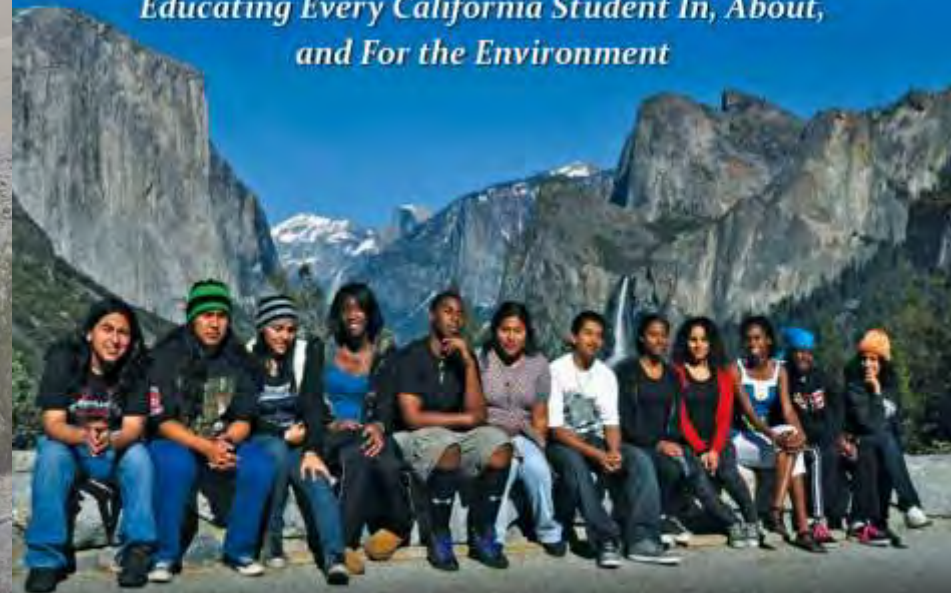
Resources:

California Education and the Environment Curriculum

A Blueprint For Environmental Literacy



*Educating Every California Student In, About,
and For the Environment*



A Report by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson's

California's Focus: Partnerships

- **San Mateo Environmental Literacy Collaborative (SMELC)**
- **ChangeScale School Partnership Initiative**
[\(http://www.changescale.org/school-partnership-initiative/\)](http://www.changescale.org/school-partnership-initiative/)
- **Brawley High School: Kids Making Sense**

San Mateo Environmental Literacy Collaborative



A K-8 professional learning collaborative focused on teaching the Next Generation Science Standards using Project-Based Learning and the environment



San Mateo Environmental Literacy Collaborative

Partners

- San Mateo County Office of Education
- School Districts
- 10 Strands
- Environmental Non-Profits

The Model

- Professional Development
- EE Unit Creation
- Instruction, Coaching, Capstone

ChangeScale[®] School Partnership Initiative

Goal: Support school districts to thoughtfully and creatively integrate environmental literacy, ensuring environmental literacy for all students.

- Connecting district teams with regional environmental education providers
- Developing a district-wide Environmental Literacy Plan
- Alameda Unified School District
- Pajaro Valley Unified School District
- Petaluma City Schools

Kids Making Sense-Brawley High School





The Journey Continues...

How?

We will advance EE by:

- Obtaining federal **funding** from ESSA
- Forming **partnerships**
- Creating **model programs** in school districts, learning from each other
- Capitalizing on this wave of excitement



BECOME A MODEL DISTRICT

IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS

OBTAIN FUNDING

DEVELOP/ENHANCE PLANS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS

LEARN ABOUT ESSA AND EE

LADDER OF ENGAGEMENT

“ESSA is a tremendous victory for advocates of environmental education...numerous studies show the positive effect of experiential outdoor learning on student development and academic achievement.”

*~Congressman
John Sarbanes*





Environmental education has been singled out for the first time in history in the K-12 authorization bill...

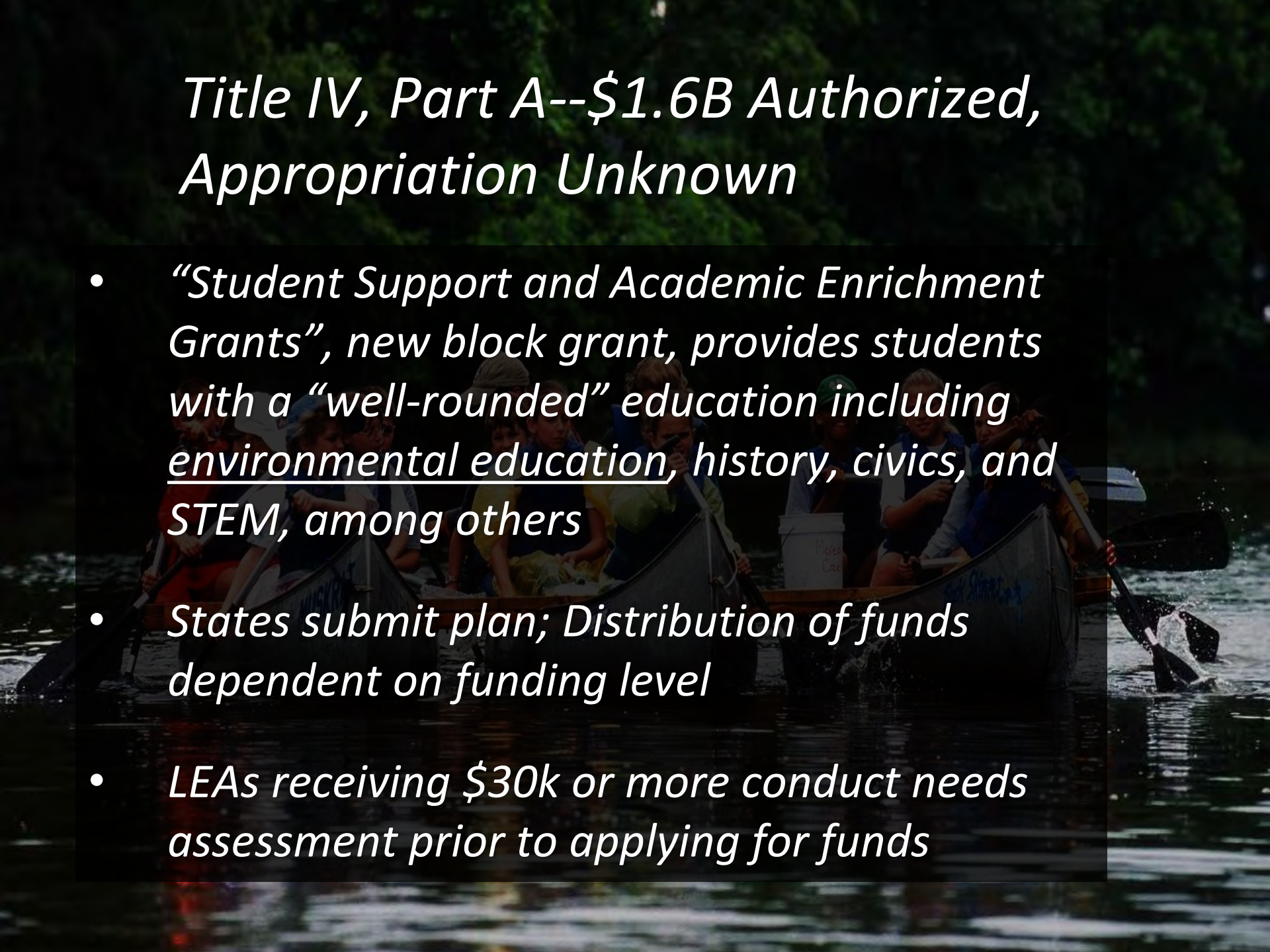
Every Student Succeeds Act

Title IV: Part A “*Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants*”

Title IV: Part B “*21st Century Community Learning Centers*”

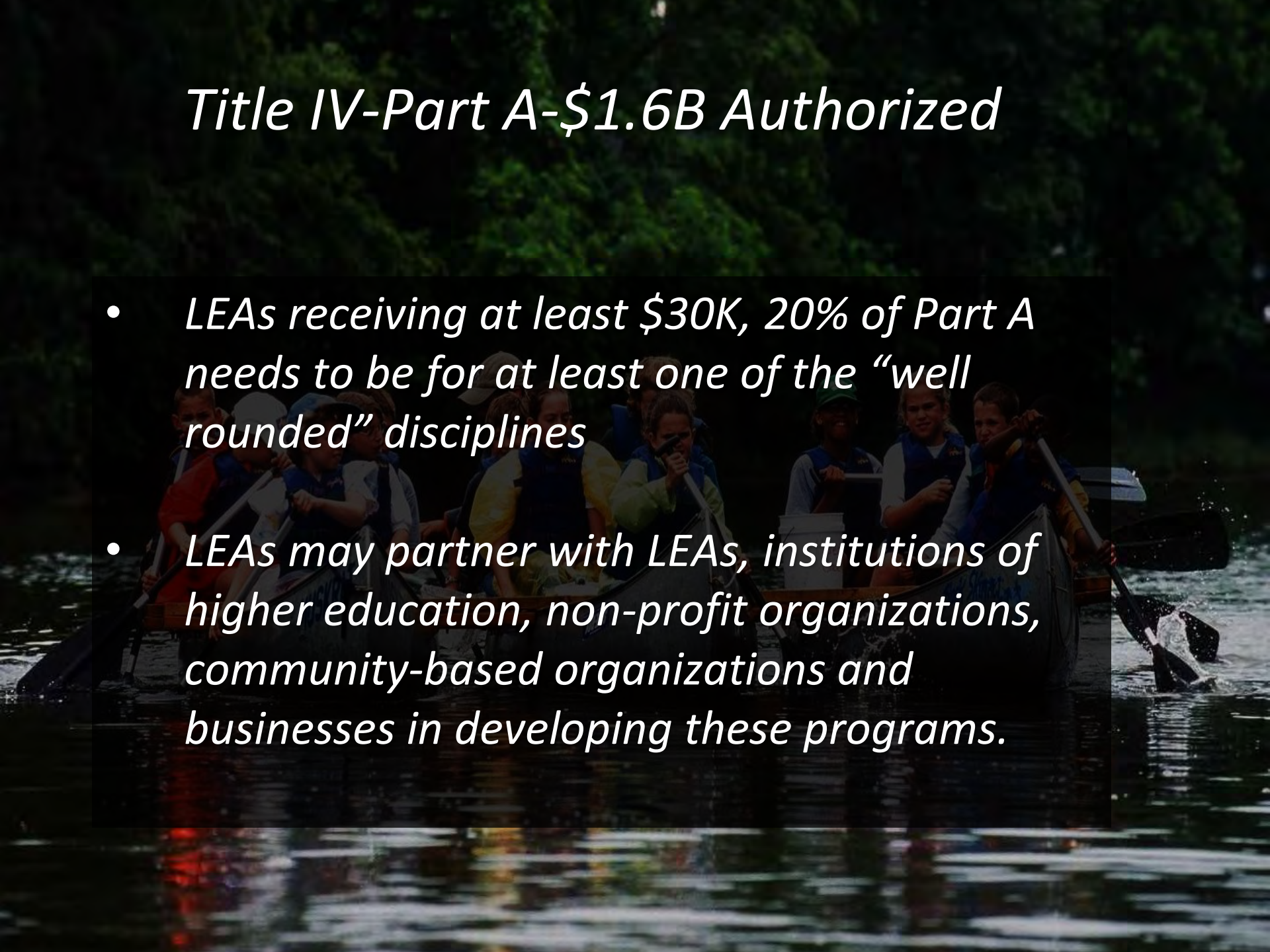


Title IV, Part A--\$1.6B Authorized, Appropriation Unknown

- *“Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants”, new block grant, provides students with a “well-rounded” education including environmental education, history, civics, and STEM, among others*
 - *States submit plan; Distribution of funds dependent on funding level*
 - *LEAs receiving \$30k or more conduct needs assessment prior to applying for funds*
- 
- A group of students in a canoe on a river, used as a background for the text.

Title IV-Part A-\$1.6B Authorized

- *LEAs receiving at least \$30K, 20% of Part A needs to be for at least one of the “well rounded” disciplines*
- *LEAs may partner with LEAs, institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, community-based organizations and businesses in developing these programs.*



Process

- State agency Implementation **Taskforces, stakeholder teams**
- Listening sessions & tours underway/concluding
- Plans posted for public comment
- State **plans** submitted to U.S. Ed, April and Sept.
- Formula **funds** distributed



Title IV-Part A-\$1.6B Authorized,



*Full implementation likely for 2017-2018
school year; regulatory changes and
appropriations may impact timing*

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a light green tank top and dark shorts, is sitting on a thick tree branch. She is holding an open book and appears to be reading. The background is filled with green leaves and branches, suggesting a forest or park setting. The lighting is soft, possibly from late afternoon or early morning.

*Title IV-Part B-\$1B Authorized,
\$1B current funding level*

- *“21st Century Community Learning Centers” focusing on out-of-school and afterschool programs*
- *This is an existing grant program. A new eligible activities is environmental education. STEM is also a priority*
- *Targeting Title 1 schools and programs*

Title IV-Part B-\$1B Authorized, \$1B current funding level

- Formula to states; Competitive grants to localities. 3-5 year grant periods. Funding level examples for FY2015: VA \$18M, MD \$15M and CA \$132M*
- Who can apply: local school systems, community-based organizations, private and public entities and a consortium of agencies*
- States will administer, monitor and evaluate approved programs*

Guidance

U.S. Department of Education Non-Regulatory Guidance from ESSA issued October 21, 2016

ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES

Environmental education (ESEA section 4107(a)(3)(G)). An LEA may use funds for activities in environmental education, which is generally understood as instruction that encourages students to develop knowledge, intellectual skills, attitudes, experiences, and motivation to make and act upon responsible environmental decisions. Environmental education is generally understood to be a multi-disciplinary field that integrates disciplines such as biology, chemistry, physics, ecology, earth science, atmospheric science, mathematics, and geography.

SPOTLIGHT: Many schools across the nation provide environmental education classes for students. **Project Learning Tree® (PLT)** is one example of an award-winning environmental education program designed for teachers and other educators, parents, and community leaders working with youth from preschool through grade 12. PLT provides educators with supplementary curriculum materials, professional development, and resources to integrate...



- New guidance released on Oct 21st specifies environmental education as an allowable activity
- Spotlights Project Learning Tree (PLT) and North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE)







*How can North American
Association for Environmental
Education help?*



Resources:

- Models and best practices resources for integrated PreK-12 EE
- Research on EE- student outcomes
- Policy and funding support
- Facilitated collaboration between formal and nonformal educators



 Join eePRO Anyone can join eePRO, the global community of environmental...	 Consulting Services Doesn't everyone need a helping hand? As a nonprofit...
 Affiliates Since 1998, the Affiliate Network has grown to a membership...	 Annual Conference NAAEE's annual conferences have helped shape the evolution of...
 Connect with Us NAAEE offers many easy ways to stay connected with...	 Awards for Excellence NAAEE awards are presented to individuals and organizations...

Partners:

- Affiliates across the nation
- Connections with environmental education organizations nationwide

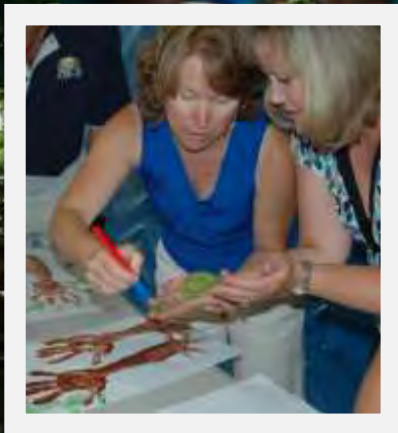


How can Project Learning Tree help?



Project Learning Tree offers...

- *Curriculum guides aligned to national and state standards*



- *Professional development for educators*
- *Online resources www.plt.org*
- *GreenWorks! and GreenSchools*

Partners:

- Coordinators in each state
- Connections with many districts across the country
- Connections with environmental education organizations in each



Project Learning Tree TRAININGS • CURRICULUM • GREENSCHOOLS • RESOURCES • NEWS & STORIES • ABOUT US

FIND PROJECT LEARNING TREE IN YOUR STATE

Contact your PLT State Coordinator for:

- local resources and assistance
- ideas and encouragement for incorporating environmental education and outdoor learning into your classroom
- connections to mentor teachers, community members, and resource professionals
- information about in-person professional development workshops in your area
- becoming a PLT workshop facilitator



PLT PHOTO GALLERY

Who is willing to pass on information to their state sups?



Wrap Up

SEEC EVENTS

A Webinar on Environmental Education
for Superintendents

*Tuesday, May 2
1:00-2:00PM EST*

Who: Superintendents

www.sups4ee.org

Wrap Up

www.sups4ee.org

SEEC
Superintendents' EE Collaborative
Collaborative Superintendents for Environmental Education

HOME | EVENTS | PARTNERS | RESOURCES

The Superintendents' Environmental Education Collaborative

ABOUT

The Superintendents' Environmental Education Collaborative was formed through a partnership between Superintendents and environmental organizations. Our goal is to increase high quality environmental education for students across the nation.

MISSION

We aim to expand environmental education programs for all students to provide relevant, real-world learning experiences that include STEEM learning, civic engagement, and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century workforce.

Tweets @seecoll



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Q & A



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