



Logic and Action Plan: Post-Quarterly Progress Meeting

[Sustainable Schools Outcome] – [2021-2022]

Long-term Target: Continually increase the number of schools in the region that reduce the impact of their buildings and grounds on their local watershed, environment and human health through best practices, including student-led protection and restoration projects.

Two-year Target: Not established

Factor	Current Efforts	Gap	Actions	Metrics	Expected Response and Application	Learn/Adapt
<i>What is impacting our ability to achieve our outcome?</i>	<i>What current efforts are addressing this factor?</i>	<i>What further efforts or information are needed to fully address this factor?</i>	<i>What actions are essential (to help fill this gap) to achieve our outcome?</i>	<i>What will we measure or observe to determine progress in filling identified gap?</i>	<i>How and when do we expect these actions to address the identified gap? How might that affect our work going forward?</i>	<i>What did we learn from taking this action? How will this lesson impact our work?</i>
Partner Coordination: Development of shared stream restoration monitoring protocols and technical guidelines	Development of individual state protocols	<i>Lack of common watershed, stressor, and stream assessment and restoration guidelines</i>	1.1			
State education agency leadership: High level support for environmental literacy from state departments of education that is communicated to school districts is	Convening of state-level leaders to increase dialog and internal connections.	Missing contacts; need sustained engagement	1.1, 1.2	No	By convening state-level sustainable school meetings and seeking additional funding we expect more sustained engagement from state education agency leadership.	

<p>critical to establish sustainable schools as a priority. These agencies are also important for establishing supportive policies and identifying funding streams.</p>						
<p>State agency and partner coordination: Sustainable schools implementation requires the support of many state and local partners who often are the professionals working to identify and install best management practices, conduct teacher professional development, and support student programming</p>	<p>Convening of state-level leaders to increase dialog and internal connections</p>	<p>Missing contacts; need engagement</p>	<p>1.1, 1.2, 3-1</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>We expect more coordination between partners and state education agencies by convening sustainable school meetings, identifying additional funding and supporting development and dissemination of school sustainability actions.</p>	
<p>School district implementation: Education is primarily controlled by local school districts (600+ in the region), each with their own leadership and management structure. With the exception of state laws and regulations, education priorities are largely determined at the local level and may</p>	<p>Providing and promoting sustainable schools information to school districts, which includes a wide array of benefits; supporting BMP projects that tie to the educational component of curriculum.</p>	<p>Competing priorities, unknown effects of COVID-19; grant/technical assistance opportunities</p>	<p>3-2, 3-3, 1.4</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>We expect more school district implementation of sustainable school practices by supporting the implementation of BMP implementation on school grounds, the creation of healthy learning environments in response to COVID-19 and disseminating information about the relationship</p>	

not mirror state priorities.					between sustainable schools and benefits like student achievement and cost-savings.	
National leadership: The U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Program has organized the thinking and incentivized the development of sustainable schools across the region	Collect successful program models and promote participation; collaborate with US DOE		1.1,1.3, 3.2	No	We expect increased participation through the collection of successful sustainable school models, convening state-level meetings and sharing information about successful programs.	
Funding and staff resources: A major limiting factor is funding, including support for best management practices, student projects, program staffing, and teacher professional development.	Coordinate across GITs to better align efforts; Better integrate a holistic approach across the school staff structure	Competing priorities; lack of grants/technical assistance; “silos”	2.1, 2.2	No	By increasing the number of professionals engaged in sustainable school efforts at the state level and connecting with other CBP Workgroups we expect to increase the capacity of the sustainable school work.	

ACTIONS – [2021-2022]

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
Management Approach 1: Strengthen and coordinate sustainable school state certification and recognition programs consistent with high-quality, recognized criteria such as the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School program.					
1.1	Convene state-level sustainable schools meetings to facilitate dialog and increase intentional connections among programs to create an easy-to-understand pathway for schools to engage in increasingly sophisticated sustainability efforts.	Work with states to better understand state efforts and increase collaboration across state lines.	CBP	Region	Dec. 2021
		Regularly convene sustainable schools representatives to highlight lessons learned and discuss shared interests. Share best practices and review State practices.	CBP	Region	Semi-annually
		Collaborate within the VDOE, include representatives from the departments of facilities, health and PE, school nutrition, STEM, to determine information that can be included on VDOE website on sustainable school practices. Create links between sites to allow for easier access to information.	VDOE	VA	Annually
		Collaborate across Virginia state agencies to determine information to be shared on agency websites to support sustainable school practices.	VRUEC	VA	
		Develop a strategy for Virginia's sustainable school effort that includes identifying pathways and recognition criteria through programs such as Virginia Naturally, PLT GreenSchools, NWF EcoSchools and US Green Ribbon.	VRUEC, CB VA Workgroup	VA	Dec. 2021
		Continue to serve on the PA Green and Healthy Schools Advisory Board and collaborate with PDE, DCNR, DEP, EPA, Dept of Ag, PennDot, and Dept. of Health, and on sustainable school program development and participation.	PA PDE	PA	Ongoing

ACTIONS – [2021-2022]

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
		Redesign, expand and promote the PA Pathways to Green Schools program (feeder to US DOE Green Ribbon Schools), to include components related to the State Mandated IPM Manual for Schools, EJA, and MWEE based exploration through spatial tools such as DEP EJ/Env Issue mapping software. To include mentor and piloting of new educational support, teaching materials, and professional development models.	PDE, PA DEP EJ Office, DOH, PA ACEE	PA	December 2022
		Determine and provide technical support needed to increase the number of Capital LEAF schools and U.S. Green Ribbon Schools applications	OSSE	DC	Ongoing
1.2	Identify, seek, and facilitate additional funding opportunities to support sustainable school efforts.	Review funding criteria to include frameworks that include: environmental and scientific literacy and sustainable schools components.	CBP	Region	Ongoing
		Redesign PA Pathways to Green Schools program, including development of statewide advisory panel that consists of NGO's State Agency Representatives, industry members. New program will include tiered awards to promote further sustainable schools work, mentor program, pilot and implementation of lesson tool boxes that assist schools in addressing environmental justice/energy efficiency/healthy schools issues.	PA PDE	PA	Ongoing
		Continue to facilitate funding to support sustainable schools through the DEP EE Grant Program	DEP	PA	
		Encourage the submission of sustainable schools projects to applicable EPA grant programs.	EPA	Region	Ongoing

ACTIONS – [2021-2022]

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
		WV DEP Chesapeake Bay Program "Tributary Team" expands potential of U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program funding for MWEE and Sustainable Schools	Cacapon Inst.	WV Bay Counties	Dec. 2021
		Continue to facilitate funding to support sustainable schools through EE Grants, so more schools can become involved in EE opportunities	DDOE and DE Watersheds Group	DE	Ongoing
		Continue working with Building United to support sustainable schools	DDOE and BU	DE	Ongoing
		Continue to offer the PA DEP Environmental Protection EE Grant Program, PA Pathways to Green Schools, Youth Ag programs to fund development of sustainable school programs throughout PA.,	PA DEP/PDE/PDA	PA	Ongoing
		Actively seek funding opportunities via philanthropic and other clearing houses, share via list serves, state agent newsletters (e.g. SAS - EE & AG, Greenand NGO networks on a parodic basis.	PA PDE, DCNR, DEP, PDA, PAEE	PA	Ongoing
1.3	Collect successful program models and lessons learned and share among partner organizations to improve programs and increase collaboration.	Develop a plan and explore options to showcase and communicate Sustainable Schools efforts on Bay Backpack.	CBP	Region	Dec. 2021
		Actively engage school districts that are in areas of potential environmental justice concern and encourage partnerships with schools who have received certification.	EPA	Region	Ongoing
		Communicate solutions that will support environmental health and wellbeing of students, teachers and staff including clean air, clean water, and green cleaning.	EPA	Region	Ongoing

ACTIONS – [2021-2022]

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
		Provide exemplars of GRS winner applications to divisions upon request in order to support the development of GRS submissions.	VDOE	VA	Annually
		Compile and distribute examples of formal policies that encourage and facilitate public and private early learning facilities to designate space for children to interact with nature. Work with experts across the state to develop a Maryland specific resource using national guidance on outdoor spaces for early childhood learning centers, and add it to the Nature Play Spaces guidance online at https://dnr.maryland.gov/pgc/Pages/NPS/index.aspx .	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2021
		Develop communication tools to create and leverage partnerships between schools and environmental providers.	OSSE	DC	Dec 2022
		Outreach to collect exemplar sustainability programs and plans within PA's LEA's and NGO facilities, as related to sustainable school and environmental literacy plan development, to publish within the PDE Pathways to Green Schools web page, PDE SAS system, and PA Watershed Literacy Website.	PDE	PA	Dec 2022
1.4	Create a healthy learning environment through emergent and emergency preparedness response; using outdoor, on-site space	Find/promote the supporting research and evidence that supports a healthy learning environment	CBP		Ongoing
		Support teachers for implementing emergency preparedness response using the Virginia Science Instruction Guidance for In Person and At Home Learning Environments which include significant amounts of outdoor learning.	VDOE, all state agencies, VRUEC, VAEE		Ongoing

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
		Complete and utilize the MD Project Green Classrooms health resources portfolio to provide a scientific and policy basis regarding health benefits of time outdoors for learning and recreation, to advocate for integrating green space into school settings for student wellness outcomes.	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2021
		Promote equitable access to educational and environmental literacy materials.	EPA	Region	Ongoing
		Develop IPM based PD and outreach targeting Education Trinity (Teacher, Administrators, and Faculties Managers(related to COVID, emergent health issues, and environmental justice/health equity issues). Prototype, pilot and update as new science findings and educational needs are revealed.	PDE/DEP/EJ/DOH/PA GHSP/PSU IPM program	PA	December 2021
Management Approach 2: Broaden stakeholder engagement beyond environmental literacy constituents to increase awareness, build partnerships, and strengthen support.					
2.1	Increase the number of facilities, health, and other related professionals engaged in state level sustainable school efforts to better inform and increase interdisciplinary healthy school components.	Collaborate within the VDOE, include representatives from the departments of facilities, health and PE, school nutrition, STEM, to disseminate information on sustainable school practices.	VDOE	VA	Ongoing
		Communicate state and national sustainable school award programs through VDOE Science Update and Teacher Direct.	VDOE	VA	Ongoing
		Communicate state and national sustainable school award programs through DDOE Science Update and Teacher Direct.	DDOE	DE	Ongoing
		Connect the agencies' subject matter experts to schools to provide technical assistance on stewardship efforts and/or larger scale restoration efforts. Collect and provide readily accessible	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2021

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
		information on the various programs, initiatives, and expertise offered at the state level via BayBackpack, linked to partners' websites; and promote them through existing sustainable schools programs.			
		Integrate additional agencies into the PA Pathways to Green Schools Program and Green and Healthy School Partnership, including PDA, Health, and PennDOT.	PA PDE	PA	Ongoing
		Target additional agencies to develop pathways and promote sustainable schools award programs such as Virginia Naturally, PLT GreenSchools, NWF EcoSchools and US Green Ribbon Schools.	VRUEC	VA	Dec 2021
		Target additional agencies to participate in the Pa Pathways to Green Schools Program and recognize awardees at annual recognition program.	PA PDE	PA	Ongoing
		Modernize support structure of the PA Pathways to Green Schools Program to include broader range of resource partners, mentor network, and samples of sustainable school, nutrition, safety, and integrated curricular BMPs (focus on utilization of MWEE to explore sustainable school issues)	PA PDE	PA	Ongoing
		Increase and strengthen school-based policies focusing on nutrition and physical activity by promoting technical assistance and best practices, in connection with the School Wellness Plan (State Health Improvement Plan), the PA SCORP plan (e.g. park access, safe routes to school)	PDE/PAGHSP/ DOH	PA	Ongoing
2.2	Connect with other Chesapeake Bay Program	Collaborate with other GIT teams to determine opportunities to conduct projects at schools.	CBP	Region	Ongoing

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
	Goal Implementation Teams and state working groups/networks to support implementation of best management practices at schools.	Coordinate PAGHSP participants with the NOAA PA Environmental Literacy Capacity Building Task Force to connect with the CBP	DEP,DCNR, PDE, Stroud	PA	
		Determine and then develop a driver, incentive or guidance tool to help more schools participate in sustainable practices. Use this as a means to connect and better integrate state resources (i.e., the various programs and initiatives offered at the state level) to support sustainable practices in schools, and to focus school projects on actions that contribute to restoration across the Bay Agreement goals.	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2022
		Engage DEIJ workgroup and develop an outreach strategy to ensure all school communities, regardless of socioeconomic status, will develop strategies to ensure that all students can participate in the process in order to become a sustainable school.	EPA	Region	Dec 2021
		Engage WV DEP Chesapeake Bay Program "Tributary Team" in implementing schoolyard watershed conservation efforts, especially stormwater runoff pollution reduction, that supports MWEE and Sustainable Schools	Cacapon Institute	WV Bay Counties	Dec. 2021
		Coordinate communication and inclusion of PA Pathways To Green Schools and PAGHSP advisory teams in the NOAA PA Environmental Literacy Capacity Building Task Force to firm the connection with Chesapeake Bay Program Environmental Literacy work.	PA PDE	PA	Ongoing

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
Management Approach 3: Identify and disseminate sustainable schools information and resources to school districts and schools.					
3.1	Support development of school and school division sustainability actions that clearly outline program components and best practices and disseminate them to encourage replication.	Encourage school division experts, stakeholders, and state/federal agencies to provide tools, resources, training opportunities, and other assistance to schools for implementing sustainable/healthy schools.	VDOE	VA	Annually
		Provide tiered and multi focal PD for the education trinity (teachers, administrators, and facilities managers) that explore sustainable schools, environment literacy, and environmental justice impacts through the MWEE framework, encouraging full system participating in the LEA's environmental literacy plan and sustainable school efforts.	DEP, DCNR, PDE, Stroud, PAGHSP	PA	Ongoing
		Continue support of US DOE Green Ribbon School program through the expansion of PA Pathways to Green Schools, as supported by resources such as NWF Eco-Schools, PLT Green Schools, and the PA GHSP.	DEP, DCNR, PDE, Stroud, PAGHSP	PA	Ongoing
		Develop, distribute and promote recommendations and guidance for implementing student-led stewardship practices on school grounds to benefit water quality.	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2021
		Identify and include, within the district Environmental Literacy Plans template, stewardship actions that contribute to and align with environmental or sustainability plans, goals or metrics at local, state or regional level.	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2022

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
		Create a resource hub that demonstrates how green building elements (green infrastructure) on school grounds can effectively be integrated into curriculum.	OSSE	DC	Dec 2021
3.2	Collect and disseminate studies and information about sustainable schools' awards programs, opportunities, and benefits, including cost savings, student health, student achievement.	Update VDOE Healthy Schools website to reflect up to date BMP and sustainable schools benefits.	VDOE	VA	Ongoing
		Encourage and support efforts in state and federal recognition activities and the US Green Building Council Green Apple Day of Service.	EPA	Region	Ongoing
		Actively seek and engage schools that are in overburdened communities/areas of environmental justice concern	EPA	Region	Ongoing
		Include Sustainable Schools section and connections to EJ within the biannual PA Advisory Council to document growth in the program and raise awareness.	PA DEP/PDE	PA	Ongoing
		Update PA Pathways to Green Ribbon Schools webpage, including exemplar projects, nomination packets, building audits (ECO School Audits, EPA's National Stormwater Calculator , SECTUM), MWEE integration, budget analysis, contact form, and other supports identified through the modernization process.	PA DEP/PDE	PA	Ongoing
		Monitor teacher/district sustained involvement and plan implantation trends through internal program feedback and tracking, and NOAA ELIT survey results. Analyze and disseminate finding through participating in state/national level conferences or through publication.	PA DEP/PDE	PA	Ongoing

ACTIONS – [2021-2022]

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party (or Parties)	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
3.3	Support the installation of BMP projects on school grounds that are tied to educational components of curriculum.	Use multiple existing mapping tools/ resources to identify examples of successful projects that can be replicated and where they can be done.	MD PGC	MD	Dec 2021
		Collect and share instructional materials that support installation of BMP projects.	CBP	Regional	Dec 2021
		Increase teachers' ability to facilitate student-driven planning and implementation of stewardship projects.	MD PGC, VRUEC	MD, VA	Dec 2022
		Encourage schools to participate in WV Sustainable Schools and WVDEd Green Ribbon Schools.	Cacapon Inst., Experience Learning	WV	Dec 2021
		Coordinate state Green Ribbon Schools Programs.	Various	WV, DE, MD, PA, VA, DC	Yearly
		Broadly engage WV Bay County communities in stormwater runoff pollution mitigation BMP's including schoolyard based watershed conservation tied to MWEE and Sustainable Schools	Cacapon Inst., Experience Learning	WV	Dec. 2021
		Support implementation of stormwater, energy efficiency, indoor and outdoor air/water quality, BMPs through professional development workshops for formal and non-formal educators. Include focus on EJ area connections to district and school health and remediation techniques.	PA DEP/PDE	PA	Ongoing
		DEP Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grants Program offers funds to schools, colleges and universities, watershed associations, local governments and other entities for projects that reduce water runoff pollution. Priority is given to projects that install BMPs projects in 36 watersheds that have Water Implementation Plans, and	EPA through PA DEP	PA	Deadline to apply October 23, 2020

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		especially PA's share of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Approximately \$3 million is available, with funding coming from U.S. EPA.			
		Share resources and collect PA exemplars related to the ABC's of BMPs on School Properties packets for school leaders, administration, facility managers, and local municipalities with schools and communities stakeholders.	PDE/DEP/Stroud Water Research Center	PA	Ongoing