

Education WG  
March 12, 2020  
3-5pm  
Attendees: 19

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions- Kellie Tharp

Agenda review

- New agenda item—what are states doing in response to corona virus and upcoming events

Updating the CE Strategy Toolkit

- Just received funding from our MSCG, so we can start the RFP process
- Align to current STEM, Education, Academic standards
- Will be putting together a small steering committee to create an RFP to get this project done  
[ACTION]
  - Volunteers: Barb Gigar (Iowa DNR), Marc LeFebre? (AFWA), Indiana might have someone they can volunteer, have a few from a previous request sent out
    - Having a diversity of people involved would be good—some who are aware of the toolkit and some who aren't (get new perspectives)
    - Would like to have 7-8 people on this steering group, that would later be broken into smaller subgroups to work on specific sections
- Currently would want to get this done by the end of the calendar year, but can get a small extension if needed
- Might look in to getting a MSCG to re-implement the updated CE Strategy toolkit in 2021 [next step]
  - Webinar Series – possibly re-start the CE Strategy webinar series; can be used as a training tool
- Discussion:
  - the reach of this toolkit is expansive, but difficult to quantify
  - this can be married to Project WILD (Iowa has done this)
  - updating this toolkit is timely as some of the educational terminology has changed, as well as alignment standards
  - we need to be careful with how it is written and implemented so it is viewed as value added instead of just 'one more thing to do' to educators
  - might look to find some connection points to Project WILD
  - Marc (Project WILD) has contacts of people who can help align the CE Strategy toolkit with NGSS standards

### Lightening Round- open discussion

- MN- teaching nature education to therapists
- Note: participants in programs have made decisions to not register for events due to them not wanting to be the 'token minority person'- they didn't have the energy to teach people how to talk to them; must learn how to positively handle
- NE- Just adopted a new strategic plan with a focus on education; need to start being more relevant with our non-traditional audiences (changing demographics); building relationships with diverse communities
- TN- Project WILD has been re-established in Tennessee
- AZ- launched some new initiatives to meet the new need to raise an extra \$10M, have started to implement some cost recovery (not make money) elements to some of their current outreach/education efforts
- IN- just hired 5 new outreach staff, looking to hire more (announcement coming and will be emailed out to the AFWA I&E and EOD email lists); our division has recognized the importance of public engagement
- Iowa- Aquatic Resources Education Conference to be held in Rapid City, SD Oct 5-9; visit [www.areanet.org](http://www.areanet.org); registration opens May 1
- OR- partnered with the OR parks department and a non-profit to put together a camping weekend with a fishing component; recommend state agencies make those potential partners to reach a broader audience