



“Every Classroom a Green Classroom”

Teacher Leadership Institute for Sustainability

The goal of this teacher leadership institute is to increase TK-12 teacher capacity for integrating environmental sustainability with classroom curriculum in any content area and leading students in sustainability efforts at school and in their communities. Teachers and their students who complete the program will receive recognition for taking part in the countywide "Every Classroom a Green Classroom" challenge. This green classroom recognition program will challenge teachers and students to make a commitment to sustainable practices as a learning community and apply their classroom knowledge and skills to impact an environmental issue on their campus or in their community.

To accomplish this goal, participants will:

- **Engage as learners in deepening understanding of UN Sustainability Goals, California’s Environmental Principles and Concepts and NOAA’s Meaningful Watershed Education Experiences Framework (which is also applicable to broader environmental and climate education)**
- **Define environmental issues relevant to students and schools and identify potential connections to classroom curriculum and assignments**
- **Collaborate with local environmental education partners for field trip programs and stewardship action projects**
- **Engage students in identifying, learning and taking action on an environmental issue relevant to their classroom community as part of the pilot “Every Classroom a Green Classroom” recognition program. Participants will share their green classroom profiles at the final showcase in April.**
- **Leverage opportunities for student action projects to contribute to green school certification and other existing district greening efforts**

DATES AND TIMES:

NOTE: The program includes synchronous virtual sessions, in-person sessions, and asynchronous independent work.

- January 14 & 15 Kick-off (in person) 9:00am - 3:30pm
- March 11 STEAM Expo (optional opportunity to share project progress)
- Virtual Afterschool Sessions: 1/31/23, 2/21/23, & 3/14/23, 3:45 pm - 5:15 pm (on zoom)
- Green Classroom Showcase: tentative date April 15 (in person) 9:00am-3:30pm

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

- TK-12 teachers with a passion for connecting their classroom instruction to real-world issues and action
- Environmental Education Partners with programs and/or service learning opportunities related to UN Sustainability Goals, especially watersheds, ocean and climate change

APPLICATIONS: [Apply at this link](#). Application deadline is September 30. Space is limited to ensure participation across districts and grade bands. All applicants will be notified of application status no later than October 15. Please contact Amity Sandage at asandage@santacruzcoe.org with questions.

STIPEND PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENTS: Classroom teacher participants will receive up to \$1200 for participation based on attendance at all in person and virtual sessions. Stipends will be paid by districts at the end of the 2022-23 school year. Santa Cruz COE will reimburse districts up to \$1200 per teacher plus statutory benefits in accordance with attendance and program completion. Santa Cruz COE will track and provide all attendance documentation. No stipends are available for community-based Environmental Educator participants at this time.

Questions? Contact: Amity Sandage asandage@santacruzcoe.org

The *Every Classroom a Green Classroom* Teacher Leadership Institute for Sustainability is funded by NOAA's Bay-Watershed Education and Training Grant Program.